

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

### **POLICY:**

The Lake Stevens School District Board of Directors embraces safety and security and believes it to be the District's responsibility to ensure that every reasonable effort is made to ensure the safety and security of District employees, students, and visitors. The Board affirms that the implementation of this policy will be the joint responsibility of the Board, administration, faculty, staff, and students. The success of this program is dependent upon cooperation at all levels.

It is the policy of the Lake Stevens School District to provide and maintain the critical and necessary environment in which effective teaching and learning can take place. School safety supports student learning by creating and promoting a physically, emotionally, socially, and academically secure climate for students, staff, and visitors.

To help provide this climate of safety, the Lake Stevens School District will develop and annually revise and update, as necessary, its Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to ensure that it:

1. includes required school safety policies and procedures;
2. addresses emergency prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery;
3. includes provisions for assisting and communicating with students and staff, including those with special needs or disabilities;
4. uses the training guidance provided by the Washington Emergency Management Division, Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management, the federal Departments of Homeland Security and Education, the A.L.I.C.E. Training Institute and others, in collaboration with the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction School Safety Center and the School Safety Center Advisory Committee;
5. ensures that school and program administrators are certified on the Incident Command System;
6. takes into account the manner in which the school facilities may be used as a community asset in the event of a community-wide emergency;
7. sets guidelines for requesting city or county law enforcement agencies, local fire departments, emergency service providers, and county emergency management agencies; and
8. meets all requirements for and successfully implements participation in all safety-related drills.

In addition, district personnel will, through collaboration with local law enforcement agencies and first responders, develop an individualized emergency response agreement which defines a system to expedite communication, response, and arrival of local law enforcement agencies and first responders in the event of a threat or emergency at a school. The District will consider the use of best practices and the most current and evolving technologies to facilitate such communication, response, and arrival.

References:

RCW 28A.320.125