

Ordinance 2025/26-34

Section 5-2.5. Fire drills required; Lock-Down Drills; School Bus Emergency Drills; Tornado Drills; Sudden Cardiac Arrest Drills; Training on Safety Procedures Required; Bleeding Control Kits.

— A. All Suffolk Public Schools holds fire drills during school session in accordance with the requirements of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (Virginia Code § 27-94, et seq.) Evacuation routes for students shall be posted in each room. Written results of each fire drill shall be submitted to the appropriate department. No fire drills are conducted during periods of mandatory testing required by the Board of Education.

B. All Suffolk Public Schools shall have a lockdown drill at least once during the first 20 school days of each school year. Each school shall hold at least one additional lock-down drill after the first 60 days of the school year. Each school provides the parents of enrolled students with at least 24 hours' notice before the school conducts any lock-down drill. Such notice is not required to include the exact date and time of the lock-down drill.

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students are exempt from mandatory participation in lock-down drills during the first 60 days of the school session. The superintendent develops procedures to implement such exemption. Each pre-kindergarten and kindergarten student participates in each lock-down drill after the first 60 days of each school session.

C. All Suffolk Public Schools shall hold a drill in leaving school buses under emergency circumstances at least once during the first 90 calendar days of each school year and more often if necessary.

D. All Suffolk Public Schools shall have at least ~~three~~ one tornado drills every school year.

E. At least annually, each school practices responding to sudden cardiac arrest on school grounds in accordance with each school's established cardiac emergency response plan (CERP) or athletic emergency action plan (athletic EAP).

~~E. F.~~ In addition to the drills mentioned above, the School Board provides training to each student and employee at least once each school year on safety procedures in the event of an emergency situation on school property.

G. Each school with a bleeding control kit will present such kits during all safety drills.

(Adopted: August 10, 1995; Revised: February 14, 2008; Ordinance Number 07/08-4; Effective February 14, 2008; Revised May 12, 2016; Ordinance Number 15/16-40; Effective Date: July 1, 2016; Revised October 13, 2016; Ordinance Number 16/17-8; Effective Date: July 1, 2017; Revised: August 16, 2018; Ordinance Number 18/19-9; Effective Date: August 16, 2018; Ordinance Number 19/20-23; Revised/Effective Date: November 14, 2019; Revised Effective April 12, 2021; Ordinance Number 20/21-23; Ordinance 22/23-41, Revised/Effective: February 9, 2023; Ordinance 24/25-30; Revised/Effective: September 12, 2024)

Legal Authority - Virginia Code §§ 27-94 through 27-101, 22.1-137, 22.1-137.1 through 22.1-137.3, 22.1-184, 22.1-271.9, 22.1-274.7 and Acts 2006, c. 164, 8 VAC 20-131-260 (1950), as amended.