



STUDENT SAFETY

Background

Safety and health programs are a shared responsibility of Division, staff, parent(s)/guardian, and students. The Division accepts the responsibility for leadership of the safety program, for its effectiveness and improvement, and for provisions required to ensure safe conditions. Staff are responsible for ensuring that all operations are performed with the utmost regard for safety and health.

Every reasonable effort will be made to provide students with a safe learning environment. Students are to behave in ways that show respect for the safety and well-being of themselves and others.

Procedures

1. Principals shall ensure that school staff members are aware of the common-law doctrine of *in loco parentis*, which requires that employees:
 - 1.1 Act as would a reasonable and prudent parent in the same circumstances and conditions;
 - 1.2 Do not have all of the authority that a parent would have, i.e. consent for the medical treatment of a student;
 - 1.3 Recognize the limitations of their ability to provide direct assistance.
2. The Principal shall ensure that the following safety procedures are followed:
 - 2.1 Appropriate and adequate supervision is provided at all school-sponsored activities;
 - 2.2 Contact numbers for emergency medical response will be included in the Crisis Response plan of each school.
3. Maintenance Supervisors shall ensure that all physical activity facilities, including playing surfaces, playgrounds, and major equipment are regularly inspected and maintained.
4. School staff are responsible to ensure that safety practices identified in various Programs of Study, as prescribed by Alberta Education and the Division, are followed.
5. The Principal is responsible for ensuring that:
 - 5.1 Staff are familiar with the contents of the document Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity in Alberta Schools, and that recommended safety practices are followed.
 - 5.2 Training in certified first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is made available to school staff members on a yearly basis.



- 5.3 Students and parents/guardians are aware of safety procedures.
- 5.4 Safety guidelines are developed and annually reviewed by staff.
- 5.5 First aid kits are approved and replenished on a regular basis.
- 5.6 A cell phone is available for staff members who are supervising students away from access to public phones.

Reference: Section 3, 11, 31, 33, 36, 37, 52, 53, 55, 196, 197, 222, 256 Education Act
Supporting Safe, Secure and Caring School in Alberta (1999)
Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity in Alberta Schools (1999)
A Safe Place: Creating Peaceful Schools (1994)