

## SAFETY DRILLS

### Fire Drills

Each school holds a fire drill at least twice during the first 20 school days of each session. Each school holds at least two additional fire drills during the remainder of the school session. Evacuation routes for students are posted in each room. No fire drills are conducted during periods of mandatory testing required by the Board of Education.

### Lock-Down Drills

Each school has a lock-down drill at least once during the first 20 school days of each school session. Each school holds at least one additional lock-down drill after the first 60 days of the school session. 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 students participates in each lock-down drill after the first 60 days of each school session.

### School Bus Emergency Drills

Each school having school buses holds a drill in leaving school buses under emergency circumstances at least once during the first ninety calendar days of each school session and more often if necessary.

### Tornado Drills

There is at least one tornado drill every school year in every school.

### Emergency Situations

In addition to the drills mentioned above, the Essex County 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.

Adopted: April 9, 2012

Revised: April 3, 2017

July 12, 2021

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, §§ 22.1-137, 22.1-137.1, 22.1-137.2, 22.1-137.3, 22.1-184.

Acts 2006, c. 164.

8 VAC 20-131-260.

Cross Refs.: EB                      School Crisis, Emergency Management and Medical  
Emergency Response Plan