

CHAPTER 3.00 - SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS

3.06

1. Introduction

The Hamilton County District School Board has as its first obligation to provide a safe, secure and orderly learning environment in all schools and at all sponsored activities for students, school personnel, and other persons.

2. Orderly Environment

An orderly environment can only be achieved by developing procedures to control students, personnel, and other persons on school property and attending School Board or school sponsored events or activities. All procedures shall reflect the following policy provisions:

- a) No person other than a student or employee of the school district shall be on a school campus during school hours unless they are in compliance with Policy 9.07 (Visitors).
- b) A student who is suspended or expelled is not in good standing and is not permitted on the school campus, school grounds, or at a school sponsored activity.
- c) Any person on a school campus or school grounds not in accordance with this policy is hereby declared to be a trespasser and shall be asked to leave immediately by any staff member. Each principal shall keep a log of such incidents which shall provide the name of the person asked to leave and other pertinent information. If said person shall again be seen upon the school campus or school grounds, any staff member shall immediately notify the principal or appropriate local law enforcement officials without further warning.
- d) Individuals who enter School Board property, activity, or School Board meeting without a legitimate reason and create a disturbance or refuse to leave the property or activity when asked by the board chairperson, Superintendent/designee, principal or person in charge are subject to criminal penalty as provided in Florida Statutes. The person in charge shall contact appropriate law enforcement officials in cases of disruptive activity or refusal to leave the school property or activity and take appropriate actions to have the offender punished as prescribed by law. The Superintendent shall be notified of any such action at schools or school activities.

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- e) No person except law enforcement and security officers may have in his/her possession any weapon, illegal substance, or dangerous substance while on school property or at school events.

3. Safety – Emergency Plans

- a) The Superintendent shall develop and present to the Board for review an approval appropriate school emergency management and preparedness plans.
- b) The Superintendent shall establish uniform guidelines for the development of schools' emergency management and preparedness plans.
- c) Each school shall develop and maintain an up-to-date plan based upon the uniform guidelines and including the provisions of Florida law, State Board of Education rules, and other applicable regulations.
- d) Copies of school plans shall be provided to county and city law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and emergency preparedness officials.

4. Safety – Procedures

- a) School alarms shall be monitored on a weekly basis and malfunctions shall be reported for immediate repair.
- b) A safety program shall be established consistent with the provisions of Policy 8.01.
- c) Emergency evacuation drills (fire, hurricane, tornado, other disaster, and school bus) shall be held in compliance with state requirements. Each principal, site administrator or transportation official is responsible for
 - Developing and posting emergency evacuation routes and procedures;
 - Assigning and training staff members in specified responsibilities to ensure prompt, safe and orderly evacuation;
 - Identifying and reporting hazardous areas requiring corrective measures; and

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- Preparing and submitting a written report of each emergency evacuation drill to the District office.
- d) In the event of an emergency, the Superintendent is authorized to dismiss early or close any or all schools. Except that the principal may dismiss the school when the Superintendent or designee cannot be contacted and an extreme emergency exists endangering the health, safety or welfare of students. Any such actions shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent or designee along with a statement describing the reasons for the action. Such report shall be submitted to the School Board at the next regular meeting unless a special meeting is held relating to the emergency.
5. Safety – Violence Prevention
- a) The Superintendent shall develop a violence prevention plan for use by each school.
 - b) Training in identification of potentially violent behaviors and the procedures to be implemented shall be provided to personnel of the schools.
6. Security
- a) The Superintendent shall establish and implement a Domestic Security Plan consistent with the requirements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
 - b) The Superintendent shall develop and implement guidelines and procedures for reviewing each school's security provisions.
 - c) A review of each school's security provisions shall be conducted annually by the principal with a written report submitted to the Superintendent or designee for submission to the Board for review.
 - d) Each school's emergency plan shall include security provisions including emergency lockdown procedures.
 - e) Security trailers may be located on school property.
7. Locker Room Supervision

Hamilton County School District shall observe measures intended to protect the safety and privacy rights of individuals using school locker rooms. The following provisions outline the extent to which that protection can and will be provided:

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- a) Locker rooms are provided for the use of physical education students, athletes and some other activity groups. All other students are prohibited from entering the locker room at any times. Groups that are entitled to use the locker room are restricted from its use unless there is a coach, teacher or other adult present. At no time should students be in the locker room before school, during break or lunch unless accompanied by an adult.
- b) No cameras, video recorders or other devices that can be used to record or transfer images may be used in the locker room at any time.
- c) No person may use a cell phone to capture record or transfer a representation of a person in the locker room or to take any other photo or video image of a person in the locker room. Students and staff violating this policy shall be subject to school disciplinary action and possible legal referral, if applicable.

8. Purpose: In order to maintain security for students, minimize damage to property and encourage personal responsibility, Hamilton County School District will implement restroom procedures.

Responsibility: Students take personal responsibility for their bathroom needs and behavior. These needs should be taken care of before school, during lunch or after school. Outside these times, restroom use will be allowed only in case of an emergency at the discretion of the teacher.

Supervision: To assure student safety and correct behavior, restrooms at the elementary schools are located near classrooms and/or accessed by way of classrooms. At the middle/high school, restrooms are monitored by way of hallway cameras.

Special Circumstances, Lockdowns and Campus Emergencies: During lockdown and certain other campus emergencies, all students are to be inside their assigned classrooms or sheltered in the nearest supervised classroom available when the emergency was declared. If the emergency lasts for an extended period, administration will determine if it is safe for students to be accompanied to restrooms in small groups, and will assign personnel to conduct the groups. No students will be allowed to leave classrooms without adult supervision during a campus emergency. When the "all clear" signal is given, teachers may allow students to go to the restroom at their discretion, and with care to avoid contributing to further disturbance on campus.

Medical Necessity: Students who have a medical condition requiring more frequent access to a restroom should be referred to the school nurse.

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