

SCHOLAR SAFETY**CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT**

In compliance with Miss. Code Ann. Section 43-21-353, District personnel shall immediately report suspected child abuse or neglect to the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The number for the Child Abuse Hotline is (601) 359-4991, or toll free (800) 222-8000.

DISASTER EMERGENCY

If this school board determines that it is not economically feasible or practicable to operate any school within the district for the full one hundred eighty (180) days required for a scholastic year as contemplated due to an enemy attack, a manmade, technological or natural disaster, or extreme weather emergency in which the Governor has declared a disaster or state of emergency or the U.S. President has declared an emergency or major disaster to exist in this state, the school board may notify the State Department of Education of the disaster or weather emergency and submit a plan for altering the school term.

If the State Board of Education finds the disaster or extreme weather emergency to be the cause of the school not operating for the contemplated school term and that such school was in a school district covered by the Governor's or President's disaster or state of emergency declaration, it may permit that school board to operate the schools in its district for less than one hundred eighty (180) days; however, in no instance of a declared disaster or state of emergency under the provisions of this subsection shall a school board receive payment from the State Department of Education for per pupil expenditure for pupils in net enrollment in excess of ten (10) days.

SAFETY DRILLS

Each school shall have a current disaster plan and shall conduct regular safety drills, to include but not limited to bomb threat, earthquake, fire, and tornado. All disasters plans and crisis response kits should be reviewed and updated, as necessary, on an annual basis.

It shall be the duty of the principals and teachers in all school buildings to instruct the pupils in the methods of fire drills and to practice fire drills until all the pupils in the school are familiar with the methods of escape. Such fire drills shall be conducted often enough to keep such pupils well drilled. It shall be the further duty of such principals and teachers to instruct the pupils in all programs of emergency management as may be designated by the state department of education.

HARASSMENT

Scholar-to-scholar sexual harassment will not be tolerated. Complaints of scholar-to-scholar sexual harassment will be handled in accordance with Policy GACN/JCP, Scholars Complaints of Sexual Discrimination/Harassment Title IX Procedures.

SCHOLAR AND STAFF PROTECTION

It shall be unlawful for any person to intimidate, threaten or coerce, or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, whether by illegal force, threats of force or by the distribution of intimidating, threatening or coercive material, any person enrolled in any school for the purpose of interfering with the right of that person to attend school classes or of causing him not to attend such classes.

Upon conviction of violation of any provision of this section, such individual shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), imprisonment in jail for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or both. Any person under the age of seventeen (17) years who violates any provision of this section shall be treated as a delinquent within the jurisdiction of the youth court.

SAFETY DURING INSTRUCTION

Each scholar and teacher are required to always wear an appropriate industrial quality eye protective device while participating in or observing any of the following courses of instruction:

1. Vocational, technical, industrial arts, chemical, or chemical-physical, involving exposure to:
 - a. Hot molten metals, or other molten materials;
 - b. Milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding, or stamping of any solid materials;
 - c. Heat treatment, tempering, or kiln firing of any metal or other materials;
 - d. Gas or electric arc welding, or other forms of welding processes;
 - e. Caustic or explosive materials; or
2. Chemical, physical, or combined chemical-physical laboratories involving caustic or explosive materials, hot liquids or solids, injurious radiations, or other hazards not enumerated.

For purposes of this section unless the context indicates otherwise "Industrial quality eye protective device" shall mean a device meeting the standards of the American National Standard Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and

Face Protection, Z 87.1-1968, and subsequent revisions thereof, approved by the American National Standards Institute, Inc. Such devices may, at the discretion of the individual school, be furnished for all scholars and teachers;

- a. purchased and sold at cost to scholars and teachers; or
- b. made available for a moderate rental fee.

Such devices shall be furnished to all visitors to such shops and laboratories.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

Maximum regard for pupil safety and adequate protection of health shall be primary requirements which shall be observed by the school board in purchasing used school buses.

SOURCE: Mississippi School Board Association

LEGAL REF: Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards 29, 30 and 31;
Sections 37-13-63, 37-11-5, 37-11-20, 37-11-49, 37-41-103

DATE: December 20, 2016

REVIEWED: March 20, 2023
June 11, 2024

AMENDED: April 18, 2023
June 24, 2024