

TYNGSBOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CRISIS MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Tyngsborough Public Schools shall establish and maintain a Crisis Management Plan in anticipation of crisis situations. The Crisis Management Plan shall include: 1) pre-crisis initiatives to prevent a crisis situation from occurring, 2) crisis management initiatives to deal with an immediate crisis situation, and 3) post-crisis initiatives to provide long-term follow-up for those affected by the crisis.

PROCEDURE

The Tyngsborough School Committee recognizes that in any public school setting where students and adults congregate to conduct business, participate in or attend activities or events, or simply socialize, crises can develop that result in potential or actual harm to individuals or groups of individuals. All children and adults have a basic need for safety and security. Any event which threatens their safety or security shall be considered a crisis. Crisis situations may include, but are not limited to, severe weather conditions, acts of violence, natural disasters, fire, sudden death of a student or staff member, accidents, trauma, and an abduction of a child from school property during school hours.

The Superintendent of Schools is responsible for development, modification and implementation of a Crisis Management Plan. Copies of such a plan(s) will be available for public viewing in the office of each building. The Superintendent will insure that the public is aware of the existence and location of these plans.

That the Plan(s) shall include:

1. a chain of command which includes school principals and other appropriate school personnel
2. a protocol for each school facility
3. cooperation and communication with other public and private institutions including the police and fire departments and other service agencies
4. guidelines for training of school personnel
5. well-defined communication vehicles to support crisis management initiatives, and
6. student awareness activities and clearly-stated expectations for parents

Safety, security and crisis prevention is a primary concern of the Tyngsborough Public Schools. Quality education is enhanced by a safe and secure environment and the knowledge that all adults and students are prepared to effectively respond to actual and potential crisis situation.

APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 5, 2006