

# Preparing our schools for emergencies and disasters



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# Presenters:

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# Key Principles

- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Proactive vs. Reactive
- Outside Resources
- Common Vocabulary
- Meet Individual School Needs
- Needs of Children and Staff of all abilities



# Key Principles:

- Include All Schools in District- Be on same page
- Ready Access to Plan- All staff understand
- Training and Practice- “We do not rise to the level of our expectations, we fall to the level of our Training”. *Archilochos*
- Living Document



# This is Huge:

## All Staff- Common Sense

- Follow protocols
- See Something, Say Something
- Live the Mission

# Five Mission Areas of Preparedness:

- **Prevention-** Avoid, Prevent, or Stop Crises
- **Protection-** Safeguard against crises
- **Mitigation-** Lessen the Impact, Reduce damage
- **Response-** Reduce traumatic stress, stabilize, assist
- **Recovery-** Return to pre-crisis function, restore

# Prevention:

- Connect with Community Responders- ACT 143
- Safety audits- Site Assessments
- Identify Stakeholders
- Office of School Safety Requirements- ACT 143 now WI State Statute 118.07
- Safety Plan review- Stakeholders??
- CPTED- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.
- Training

# Protection:

- Secured Entrances
- Bullet Resistant Glass
- Door locks
- Drills
- SRO
- Storm shelters
- Emergency supplies





# Mitigation:

- Identify risks
- Backup generator
- Encourage staff to provide feedback- debrief
- Conduct vulnerability assessment
- Eliminate safety hazards-
- PPE- Personal Protective Equipment

# Response:

- Determine the appropriate response to a crisis
- Incident Command System- ICS
- Evacuate? Lock Down? Shelter In Place??
- What level? Minimal, Building, District, or Regional??
- Information sharing- Who does this for your district?
- First Aid, Stop the Bleed, AED trained?
- Equipment and Supplies



# Recovery:

- Return to learning ASAP- Return to Normal
- Restore the Physical Plant- Power, Internet, Heat/AC
- Monitor staff and students- Mental Health professionals- Check in
- Follow up interventions
- Debriefings
- Activities that address crisis- OSS Critical Incident Response Teams
- Allow time for recovery
- Anniversaries (good and bad)
- Capture the “Lessons Learned”

# Identify the Planning Team

- School personnel (Administration, Faculty, Support Staff, Transportation)
- Local/ County Emergency Management
- First Responders (Fire, EMS, Police, Mental Health)
- Voluntary agencies in the community
- School Districts Insurance Carrier & Risk Management
- Utility company personnel
- Local Business and Industry personnel
- Office of School Safety consultants



# ICS- Incident Command System

- IC- Incident Commander
- Safety Officer
- PIO- Public Information Officer
- Liaison- SRO
- Mental Health Officer
- Operations (Doers)
- Planning (Thinkers)
- Logistics (Getters)
- Finance (Payers)



# Conducting a Hazard Analysis

- Technological and Natural Disasters
- Community Hazards
- Neighborhood Hazards
- Structural School Buildings
- Structural Hazards around campus
  - Unreinforced masonry construction
  - Broad unsupported roof spans
- Non structural Hazards
  - Chemical Storage
  - Storage of classroom materials

# Natural and Technological Disasters

- Tornadoes
- Thunderstorms
- High Winds
- Winter Storms
- Flooding
- Extreme cold or heat
- Hazardous materials
- Nuclear/ Radiation accidents
- Plane, Train, or bus crashes
- Fire
- Terrorism

# Community & Neighborhood Hazards

- Gas, Sewer, Power lines, Power Plants, Solar fields
- Facilities with toxic materials
- Hazardous material routes
- Water tower, tanks
- Underground and above ground utilities
- Storage buildings



# Non structural Hazards

*What are some non structural hazards in your schools??*

- Suspended ceilings and light fixtures
- Portable room dividers- not secured
- Large panes of glass
- Bookshelves not fastened or secured
- Office/ classroom equipment
- File cabinets- confidential
- Furnishings- fire hazards, assaults
- Electrical equipment
- Tech Ed equipment

# **Plan for the impossible.....**

All Common Sense Approach

Be Staff, Student and community focused

Train and practice

Use Resources

# Resources:

- DOJ Office of School Safety
- DSPS- Department of Safety and Public Services
- School Risk and Liability Insurance Carrier
- Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools WI, REMS Dept. of Ed.
- Wisconsin School Safety Coordinators Association, WSSCA



**SPEAK UP**  
OUT

