

# STUDENT SAFETY

## Background

The District has the duty to create and maintain a safe environment for the students and staff in all facilities.

## Procedures

1. Instruction in courses in applied skills, science, art, physical education, and health will include and emphasize safety measures and accident prevention.
  - 1.1. Before students are allowed to use equipment or perform tasks that may carry safety hazards, they will be instructed in all applicable safety rules, and instructors will enforce all safety rules set up for particular classes. These will include the wearing of protective eye devices in appropriate activities.
2. The District also wishes to protect students from danger and harassment while they are in school, on school grounds, and on their way to and from school.
  - 2.1. The District co-operates with the Vancouver Police Department in maintaining student safety.
  - 2.2. Principals are to follow the *VSB Safety Alert* to record useful and descriptive information about a situation that is potentially dangerous to students, and to staff and school community and to report the information in a consistent form to the Board office and VPD Police School Liaison Officer Program for review and possible distribution.
    - 2.2.1 The Safety Alert system was established to ensure information regarding potentially dangerous situations and incidents is reported and accurately communicated. Before information is shared with other schools, it will be confirmed with police to ensure accurate and consistent communications.
    - 2.2.2 On occasion, the *VSB Safety Alert* may be used to communicate information that has been provided to the School Board from the Vancouver Police Department.
      - 2.2.2.1 In these instances, District staff and police will work together to confirm information for accuracy and to evaluate whether the nature of the incident warrants sending a notice home to parents/guardians at the school.
      - 2.2.2.2 District staff and police then determine next steps, including clarifying what information can be shared.

2.2.3 At least once a year, Principals will review *VSB Safety Alert* reporting procedures with school staff.

3. The District has set precautions for cases of early dismissal of students and for the protection of their personal privacy and records from unauthorized inquiries.
4. The District wishes to emphasize that no school safety program can be effective unless everyone in the school community co-operates in the effort. All safety measures, whether they be fire drills, periodic clean-ups of classrooms and schools and grounds, safety instruction, or the wearing of protective clothing and eye devices in certain classes requires the support of all staff.

Reference: Section 6, 17, 20, 22, 65, 85 School Act  
School Regulation 265/89

Adopted: October 18, 1982

Revised: August 1, 1990; September 1994; January 1999; February 6, 2019