

Emergency Situations at School

Information for Families

Davis Joint Unified School District is committed to raising awareness about safety across the district. This guide is meant to share some of the roles and expectations for adults and students during urgent situations. If you have questions regarding our district emergency procedures, contact (530) 757-5300 x140

What are the types of actions a school might take in the event of an emergency?

LOCKDOWN:

Ordered when there is a threat on campus. Students should go to the nearest room. Teachers will lock doors and close blinds.

SHELTER IN PLACE:

Ordered when there is an issue off campus or a non-threat on campus. Teachers will lock doors but business will continue on as usual in the classrooms.

EVACUATION:

Ordered when there is a fire, gas leak, etc. After the fire alarm sounds, students will exit the building.

EARTHQUAKE/TORNADO:

Ordered when there is an earthquake or a tornado approaching. Students should get under desk/table and away from anything that could fall over.

HOLD:

Ordered when there is a situation on campus that requires privacy, such as a student situation or a teacher down. Students stay in classroom but continue business as usual.

- Some situations may require a combination of actions above.
- School and district staff train yearly on emergency protocols and situation management.
- Students take part in various drills throughout each school year.

What emergencies might impact a school? And which actions are taken?

Police activity in the area, bomb threat, severe weather, disorderly conduct, etc.: In these instances, the response is usually to **shelter in place**

Intruder, gunfire, explosions, etc.: Result in a **lockdown**.

Fire, gas or chemical leak, etc.: Students will first **shelter in place** until it is confirmed that there is a fire, leak, etc. This is to prevent an intruder from luring people into the halls by pulling the fire alarm. A fire, leak, etc. could lead to an **evacuation**.

Teacher down, medical emergency, private situation: Events like these that require privacy will lead to a **hold**.

Earthquake or tornado: if students are indoors they should duck under a desk/table and stay away from anything that could fall over. If they are outside, drop to the ground and away from buildings in the event of an **earthquake**. For a **tornado**, students should move indoors if possible or lay in a ditch/low area if outside.

What do I need to know, do, and not do as the parent?

- **Before an emergency:** Make sure your emergency contact numbers are updated and on file in the school office.
- **During an emergency:** Do your best to remain calm. Your example will cue others to respond similarly.
- **Communication:** Your best source for updated information is official DJUSD communication. Parents will be notified by our School Messenger system. Additional info may be available on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).
- **Releasing students:** Until you receive the message that your student will be released, please do not come to campus. This is for your and your student's safety.

Role of a student in a crisis

- Students are instructed in and practice how to respond in a crisis situation at school.
- Students should stay calm and listen to instruction from teachers, administrators, or crisis responders.
- In the absence of adult direction, decide where it is safest to be and remain there.
- Do not perpetuate rumors. This includes calls, texts, email, and/or social media.