



Spartanburg County School District Three

. . . steeped in history, focused on the future . . .

Student Safety in Spartanburg School District Three

Our schools and district have detailed emergency plans. We have provided training for our school and district leaders. Each school in the district has a safety team which is also trained. We work with a collaborative community team that includes police, fire, EMS, and school personnel. In training, we replicate different crisis situations so our employees will be better prepared for man-made or natural emergencies. These trainings are conducted annually for safety teams and other staff. Our students and staff practice for evacuations, fires, tornadoes, earthquakes, chemical spills, bomb threats, and intruders. All staff and students take these drills very seriously and we make needed adjustments to our procedures after each drill.

Our campuses are fenced and buildings are always locked. To gain entry, a visitor must push a video/audio-monitored doorbell to be admitted into the main office. They then undergo a law enforcement and national offender registry check by electronic scanning of their driver's license. Because doors leading to our main hallways are controlled by electronic locks, office personnel must approve a visitor's access to secure student areas. When visitors are not approved, or pose disruption or threat, our staff then use emergency tools and procedures which are not publicized for security reasons.

High focus cameras monitor all key parking and student traffic areas and are viewed by personnel who are briefed on our emergency procedures. Two highly trained school resource officers provide protection for our schools and guidance to our administrators. In addition, we will have a trained officer available at every school during daily arrival and dismissal. Local police officers and deputies are also used to provide security for a host of extracurricular and interscholastic events at all schools.

We enforce a zero tolerance policy for threats, weapons and illegal substances on all District Three property and for disorderly behavior that disrupts our schools or any school related event. Violators are arrested and trespassed.

We require all exterior and interior doors of schools to remain locked at all times except when adult supervision is present. Also, special interior fire doors enable us to further secure student areas from safety threats.

All classroom teachers have two-way communication devices with the main office personnel and are permitted to use their cell phones as needed for emergency circumstances. All school leadership, safety team, and support personnel have digital two-way radios enabling instant communications.

The greatest potential asset to the safety and well-being of children and staff is the ongoing vigilance of our staff and parents. We always have our eyes and ears open to real or potential threats to safety. We ask our parents, guardians, and visitors to report any unsafe conditions or practices to a school or district leader.

We expect our parents, guardians, and other visitors to respect and follow our safety and check-in/check-out procedures at all times. The safety of our children and staff outweighs any inconvenience to adults from our safety and security procedures.

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