



The All-Hazards Approach to Preparedness In Kansas Schools

By

Kansas Center for Safe & Prepared Schools

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Objectives For Today's Update

- Overview school preparedness in Kansas
- Share results of findings about our schools
- Briefly review work of the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools (KC-SPS)
- Highlight successes concerning school preparedness in Kansas
- Discuss foundations of preparedness in schools
- Discuss need for sustainability



KC-SPS Problem Statement

Every Kansas educational setting is vulnerable to threats, hazards and disasters that have the potential to disrupt normal school operations and cascade into a crisis/emergency situation.

Kansas schools are not uniformly prepared, resource equipped or trained to respond to these emergency situations.



KC-SPS Mission

- KC-SPS will provide leadership, training and resources that will sustain and improve the safe and prepared learning environments in Kansas Schools.
- KC-SPS will assist schools in the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from crisis incidents that impact their schools and communities.



School Safety and Preparedness

Our schools are the most valuable structures in our communities because they possess the most priceless treasures of our society. They should receive the constant attention and protection they deserve. School safety and preparedness should rise to the level of value we place on our children.*

*Adapted from an SRO article



KC-SPS Guiding Principles

- Regardless of current challenges, schools have a duty of care to students, staff and the community
- All schools can implement minimal cost items that improve safety and preparedness
- Advocate for children during times of crisis
- Focus on the positive connection between a safe & prepared school and academic success
- A school crisis is a community crisis and a community crisis is a school crisis
- Training, using the all-hazards approach, must be continuous due to staff turnover and changing realities
- Clearly state standards, expectations and best practices for school safety and preparedness
- School safety & preparedness is not just an educational responsibility
- Advocate for keeping school law enforcement, school health professionals and mental/emotional health professionals in schools





KC-SPS Survey Comparison Results 2009 vs 2011

Selected Question

	(Results in Percentages)			
	2009		2011	
	<u>Yes/No</u>		<u>Yes/No</u>	
#1 – My local school has an all-hazards crisis plan and is adequately prepared for crisis events	46	54	75	25
#7 – I believe there is a need for additional training for my school’s crisis management team	87	13	95	5
#8 – My school’s crisis management plan has been shared with local emergency responders	37	63	66	34
#9 – My local school has lock down drills at least annually	40	60	61	39
#10 – My local school has a shelter in place drill annually	27	73	55	45
#13 – My local school has a building crisis kit	28	72	64	36
#14 – My local school has a grab and go crisis kit for every classroom	14	86	40	60
#15 – My local school has an annual table top drill	12	88	20	80
#16 – In my local community, school officials, first responders & EM meet on a regular basis	28	72	34	66
#18 – I believe a state wide office assisting local schools in emergency management is beneficial	92	8	93	7

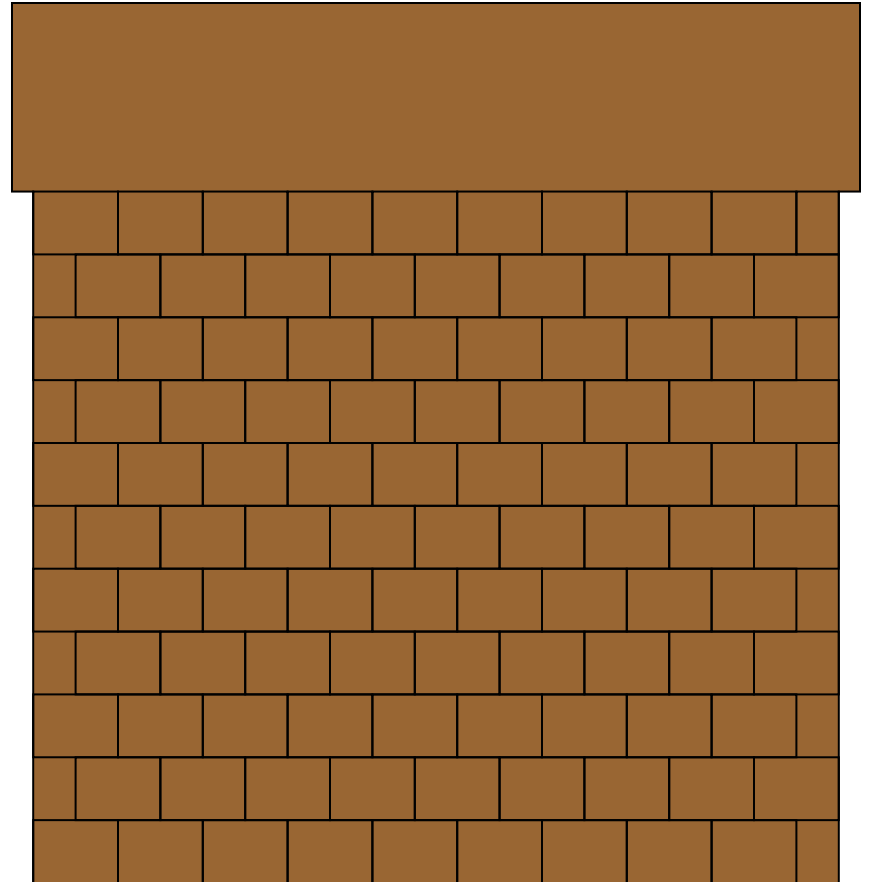
House Concurrent Resolution #5018

The legislature strongly urges all public and private schools to create and update school crisis plans and to facilitate implementation of such plans by training personnel and conducting regular drills. Be it further resolved to deliver copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of Education and the chairperson of the State Board of Education.



Barriers to School Preparedness

- Budgets/Finances
- Apathy & Naiveté
- Politics
- Staff turnover
- Lack of Regulation
- Sustainability





Who Owns the Disaster?

- Government?
- Local Community?
- Emergency Management?
- 1st Responders?
- Schools?
- Individuals?



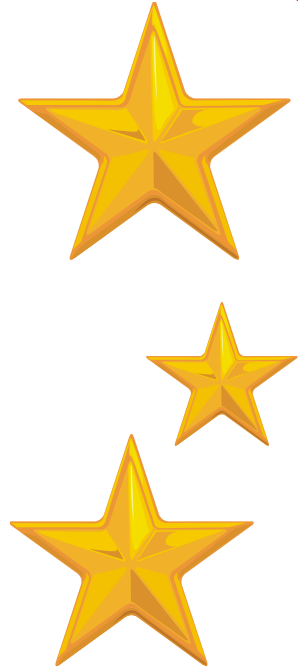
IT WON'T HAPPEN HERE BECAUSE . . .

A school disaster is a community disaster and
a community disaster is a school disaster



Growth Opportunities Facilitated by KC-SPS

- Annual Safe and Prepared Schools Conference
- Collaborative Approach for KC-SPS (KDEM, KSDE, AG's Office, KHP, KDHE and others)
- EOP Training
- Mini-Grants for preparedness
- School Preparedness Week Activities
- Standardization of emergency drills
- School in-service and workshops
- Technical Assistance
- Regional Meetings
- Opportunity to attend EMI
- Vulnerability Assessments
- Monthly newsletter
- Best practice sharing with other schools
- Future opportunities - School emergency course for educators



What is an EOP?

An EOP (emergency operations plan) is an overview of the School District's approach to emergency operations. It describes the School District, its emergency management response policy, procedures and assigned tasks. The primary audience for the EOP are the key Administrative Staff, the BOE (policy makers) and First Responders. This plan serves as the foundation for the operationally orientated building level plans.



Building Emergency Response Procedures (Building Plans)

The purpose of a Building Emergency Response Plan is to guide the duties and responsibilities of the building staff when responding to an emergency or crisis incident.

An emergency or crisis incident is an occurrence that requires actions to prevent or minimize the loss of life, damage to property or the environment.

These plans are designed for immediate response and are based upon the all-hazard approach to emergencies.



Crisis Management Action Outline (All-Hazards Approach)

- People Caused
- Natural disasters
- Physical Plant or Technological Failures



Drills and Skills

- Standardization of drills and skills
- Impact of drills - Our Lady of the Angels School in Chicago
- Drills all schools can use:
 1. Severe weather
 2. Evacuation
 3. Lockdown
 4. Shelter in Place
 5. Reunification
 6. Bus evacuation





Crisis Kits

All Disasters are Local

+ Classroom Crisis Kit

- * Intended to be Grab & Go
- * Use with every drill
- * Helpful items to the classroom teacher & students

+ Building Crisis Kit

- * Intended to be used during school emergencies
- * Organized to help building administrative & support staff during emergencies
- * Contains contact information for school students & staff



Phases of Emergency Management

- Mitigation (prevention) - On going activities aimed at eliminating or reducing the risk of personal injury & loss of life, property damage or risk to the environment.
- Preparedness (Planning) - Actions that improve the speed and coordination of the response to the emergency.
- Response - Period of time shortly before, during and after a disaster when activities are conducted in order to save lives, minimize damage and protect the environment.
- Recovery - Period of time when the immediate threat to life & property has passed. This continues until the return to 'normal operations' is complete.

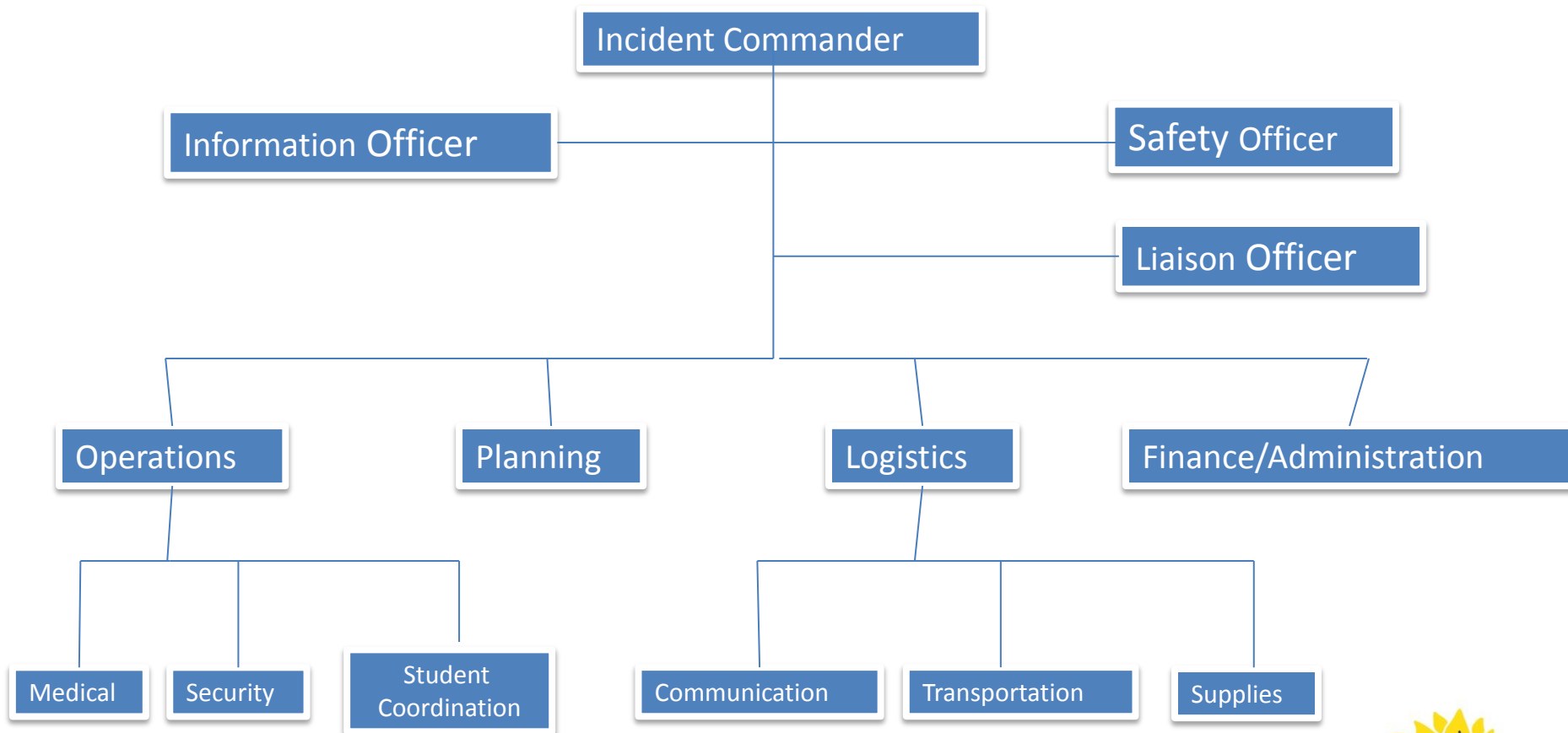


NIMS & ICS

- **NIMS - (National Incident Management System)**
A comprehensive system that improves the response operations through the use of the incident command system & application of standardized emergency procedures and preparedness measures
- **ICS - (Incident Command System)** A standardized on scene emergency management system designed to provide an integrated organizational structure to the scene. ICS is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to all size incidents. ICS is designed to aid the management of resources during a crisis incident.



Incident Command System (ICS) In a School Setting





Foundations for School All-Hazards Preparedness

- Formation of School Crisis Management Teams (Community, District & Building)
- Creation and implementation of the All-Hazard School Emergency Operations Plan (District, Building and Classroom levels)
- Vulnerability Assessments for Schools
- Standardization of Emergency Drills
- Implementing Building & Classroom Crisis Kits
- Training and Exercises
- Sustainability



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As you are walking in from observing recess on this cold and windy fall day you hear off in the distance some rumbling noises that sounds like a collision. Once inside the building, the secretary hands you the phone. The Hazmat Officer from the local fire department is on the phone advising you of a train derailment approximately a mile away from the school. He informs you that you are in the downward wind plume and the cars are leaking a chemical. The initial information is the train tank cars are carrying chlorine gas.