

Parent Reminders in the Event of a Crisis at School

- 1. DO NOT COME TO THE SCHOOL PROPERTY!** Depending on the nature of the crisis, you could be putting yourself and/or child at increased risk. *We are taking every precaution to keep them safe, including the presence of law enforcement.* We cannot effectively manage the element of parents on the scene while also dealing with the crisis at hand. At some point you will be notified of a parent gathering and/or student pick-up location.
- 2. Do not call the school.** Jamming of school phone lines or cell usage could put the school staff in jeopardy of doing what needs to be done. Only if you are *absolutely* sure that you have helpful information for everyone's benefit should you call the school.
- 3. Please wait to hear from the school via our Emergency Notification System.** Keep your cell and land line phone open and/or be accessible to your e-mail system. We will make every attempt to inform you of details and procedures *just as soon as we have solid information for you.*
- 4. Do not call or text your child on their cell phone.** They need to be totally focused on directions from the staff. We will inform you when it is appropriate for parents and students to be in touch.
- 5. Don't believe or repeat what you've "heard".** This is an explosive time for rumors, and bad information is worse than none. Sometimes even the media can make mistakes or have only part of the story regarding an event. Again, we will inform you of facts ASAP.
- 6. Feel free to contact relatives and close friends with the same messages above.** Let those who are close to your family know that they simply need to wait for information and directions to act.
- 7. Let the school do its work.** We have prepared extensively for this situation, and are working in conjunction with law enforcement and emergency personnel who have also had a great deal of training. Our thoughts are with you as you endure this time of waiting, but following these guidelines really is the most helpful thing you can do for your child.