

PARTNERING for SAFE SCHOOLS

A SAFETY AND SECURITY SUMMIT

Emergency Management Collaboration: Building the Perfect Team

In collaboration with governmental and community partners, schools can take steps to reduce the likelihood and impact of disasters and emergencies. A key component is a school-based emergency management program with a comprehensive emergency operations plan as a foundation. Effective planning is a problem-solving process with concentration on risks, hazards, and vulnerabilities of the community.

This focus can only occur when a diverse team of school, first responder, and emergency preparedness officials come to the table. An effective collaborative team might include representatives from fire, police, and emergency medical services as well as public health and emergency management officials. They can provide vital expertise and also receive insight into the unique requirements of school emergency response. As relationships develop, this safety and security team can also provide awareness and assistance with emergency response, training, drills, and disaster recovery needs, and can help schools leverage vital emergency resources.

Build your safety and security team

Consider including the following internal and external partners. These representatives should have decision-making abilities for their organization, and an in-depth understanding of their own emergency plans. Reaching out to local and state emergency officials can be challenging; however, it is a necessity for ensuring safe and secure schools.

✓	Internal	✓	External
	District emergency manager and/or safety-security coordinator		Emergency management <i>City, county, state, and/or federal</i>
	Principal or assistant principal from primary and secondary levels		Local or state fire service (as applicable)
	School-based law enforcement		Law enforcement <i>City, county, state, and/or federal</i>
	School nurse or health representative		Public health
	Counselor		Hospital
	Risk manager		Risk manager
	Legal counsel		Legal counsel
	Transportation		Transportation
	Others: Curriculum, custodial, facilities/maintenance, finance, food service, human resources, superintendent, technology		Others: Elected or appointed officials, public works