

## **School Safety and Security**

The Lynden School District seeks to develop and maintain a balance between a welcoming and inviting school and providing for the safety and security of students and staff. The safety and security of a school, the students and the staff is only as good as the practice and procedures that are put in place and used on a regular basis. Our philosophy for providing a safe and secure environment is based on the assumption that:

1. The School Districts first and foremost responsibility is to protect the children we serve each day.
2. A primary goal in creating a secure school environment is to slow down danger in emergencies and provide time for police and other first responders to arrive on site.
3. Training and planning is an ongoing process and must be part of the school's culture and practice on a regular basis.
4. Communication between schools and emergency response agencies is ongoing and essential.
5. There is not a right answer to every situation – School staff will be trained in best practices and responses and encouraged to use good judgement during an emergency situation.
6. Enforcement of safety and security measures is the responsibility of all staff.

Legal References: RCW 28A.320.126 Emergency Response System

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