

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 2, SECTION 5-2.5 ENTITLED "FIRE DRILLS REQUIRED; LOCK-DOWN DRILLS; SCHOOL BUS EMERGENCY DRILLS; TORNADO DRILLS" OF THE POLICIES OF THE SUFFOLK CITY SCHOOL BOARD - FIRST READING

BE IT ORDAINED, by the School Board of the City of Suffolk, Virginia that Chapter 5, Article 2, Section 5-2.5 entitled "Fire drills required; Lock-Down Drills; School Bus Emergency Drills; Tornado Drills" of the Policies of the Suffolk City School Board, be, and the same is hereby amended as follows:

Section 5-2.5. Fire drills required; Lock-Down Drills; School Bus Emergency Drills; Tornado Drills. — A. All Suffolk Public Schools shall ~~holds a fire drills at least twice during the first 20 school days of each session.~~ holds fire drills during school session in accordance with the requirements of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (Virginia Code § 27-94, et seq.) All Suffolk Public Schools shall ~~hold at least two additional fire drills for the remainder of the school year.~~ Evacuation routes for students shall be posted in each room. Written results of each fire drill shall be submitted to the appropriate department. No fire drills are conducted during periods of mandatory testing required by the Board of Education.

B. All Suffolk Public Schools shall have a lockdown drill at least once during the first 20 school days of each school year. Each school shall hold at least one additional lockdown drill after the first 60 days of the school year. Each school provides the parents of enrolled students with at least 24 hours' notice before the school conducts any lock-down drill. Such notice is not required to include the exact date and time of the lock-down drill.

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students are exempt from mandatory participation in lock-down drills during the first 60 days of the school session. The superintendent develops procedures to implement such exemption. Each pre-kindergarten and kindergarten student participates in each lock-down drill after the first 60 days of each school session.

C. All Suffolk Public Schools shall hold a drill in leaving school buses under emergency circumstances at least once during the first 90 calendar days of each school year and more often if necessary.

D. All Suffolk Public Schools shall have at least three tornado drills every school year.

E. In addition to the drills mentioned above, the School Board provides training to each student and employee at least once each school year on safety procedures in the event of an emergency situation on school property. (Adopted: August 10, 1995; Revised: February 14, 2008; Ordinance Number 07/08-4; Effective February 14, 2008; Revised May 12, 2016; Ordinance Number 15/16-40; Effective Date: July 1, 2016; Revised October 13, 2016; Ordinance Number 16/17-8; Effective Date: July 1, 2017; Revised: August 16, 2018; Ordinance Number 18/19-9; Effective Date: August 16, 2018; Ordinance Number 19/20-23; Revised/Effective Date: November 14, 2019; Revised Effective April 12, 2021; Ordinance Number 20/21-23; Ordinance 22/23-41, Revised/Effective: February 9, 2023)

Legal Authority - Virginia Code §§ 27-94 through 27-101, 22.1-137, 22.1-137.1 through 22.1-137.3, 22.1-184 and Acts 2006, c.164, 8 VAC 20-131-260.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, subsections, sections and chapters of the School Board's Policy Manual not amended or repealed shall remain in full force and effect.

FIRST READING: _____


SECOND READING: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____

TESTE: _____

CLERK

Approved as to form and content:


Wendell M. Waller, Esquire
School Board Attorney