



The Guntersville City School System realizes the importance of safe schools. We are committed to providing our teachers, students, and entire community an atmosphere that promotes teaching and learning in a safe and secure environment. We are continually striving to promote a climate that allows students to reach her/his fullest potential. These efforts focus on schools that are free of drugs, violence, intimidation, and fear. This is accomplished through all involved stakeholders working together for the betterment of our school system. We also provide knowledge and training in tornado safety, fire safety, and personal safety in times of crisis throughout the year. The Guntersville City School System welcomes parents to participate in the issue of safety. We encourage parental input in this area and believe this is an area that can foster positive relations for all. It has been proven that students whose families are active in the educational and social growth of their children are more likely to experience success both in and out of school and are less likely to become involved in anti-social activities. In addition, we work closely with a variety of local, state, and federal agencies to ensure safety. The Guntersville City School System, and each of the four schools within it, develop a safety plan which helps identify potential problems. These problems are addressed in our safety plans and each school is responsible for appropriate responses and corresponding actions. Schools should be safe havens for students and teachers and places where nurturing and academic fulfillment take place on a daily basis. It is our intent and commitment to provide this type of atmosphere for the betterment of all involved stakeholders.

Please contact the school or local law enforcement with any security issues or threats regarding your schools.



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Emergency Operations Plan



Heightened Awareness

(Get Your Attention)

This means a potential MAY exist for an unusual situation and all parties should have heightened awareness to react as needed.

- Follow school's communication plan for information.
- Limit movement to and from your classroom.
- Be accountable for all students.
- Be on the lookout for unusual behavior both in and outside of the school.
- Check exterior doors to make sure they are secure.

Secure Your Area of Responsibility

(Classroom, hallway, etc)

Specific incident within your area of responsibility. (Medical, threat to self or others)

- Execute **Alert** methods.
- Secure all people within your immediate area. (May require you to move to a more secure area.
- Lock or Secure doors.
- Monitor/use communication device.
- Release by intercom or other personal contact.

Secure Perimeter

(On Alert)

A potential threat or danger does exist within the community/neighborhood and all parties should be aware to react as needed.

- Execute **Alert** methods.
- Secure all people within the building.
- Lock external doors.
- Cover windows.
- Stay in secure area within the building until further notice from administration or law enforcement.
- Monitor/use communication devices.
- Requires leaving unsecure areas such as fields, gym, playground, or library to a secure area.
- Continue with instruction.
- Release via intercom.

Lockdown

(Immediate Threat)

Recognition of Danger. Take immediate action using the safest and best option for survival.

- Execute **Alert** methods.
- Secure yourself and others by assessing and using available information to decide if you should; **HIDE** (Secure and/or Barricade), **RUN** (Intelligent Escape) or **FIGHT** (Defend and Protect).

HIDE: (Secure and/or Barricade)

Lock Doors, Lights Off, Barricade entry, Quiet, Stay in place.

RUN: (Informed Escape)

Evacuate to safer location, Remain with your group, Call 911 when safe, Follow **HIDE** protocol.

FIGHT: (Defend and Protect)

As a matter of survival engage the intruder with any means necessary.

- Monitor/use communication devices.
- Release only by administration or law enforcement.

Intruder drills will be practiced throughout the year. Follow verbal commands as given. This is a learned opportunity for all school staff and students.