



Emergency Preparedness at CCRSB Schools

Dear parents and guardians:

At the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board (CCRSB) we take the health and safety of our students and staff very seriously. That's why, each year, our schools practice a series of emergency preparedness drills:

- During a **Code Red** drill, students practice for emergencies such as fire, smoke or a suspected fire. *(Schools are required to conduct a minimum of six drills per year.)*
- **Code Blue – Hold & Secure** drills are used to practice for emergencies such as an animal threat; an incident involving students; a threat outside the school; police action in the community or a medical emergency within the school. During this drill, student and staff movement inside and outside the school is minimized. In many instances, regular teaching may continue in the classrooms. *(Schools are required to practice at least one drill each year.)*
- During a **Code Blue – Lockdown** drill, students practice for emergencies such as an unauthorized visitor with unknown intent or a violent or potentially violent incident inside the school. During this drill students and staff will practice hiding and trying to avoid detection from an intruder. *(Schools are required to practice at least two drills each year. These drills often involve police.)*
- **Code Black – Evacuation & Relocation** drills are used to practice for emergencies such as fire (where it is necessary to move the school population away from the building); bomb threat; police action in the community and flood or other natural disaster. *(Schools are required to practice at least one drill each year. Police agencies or other emergency responders may be involved in this drill.)*

Drills are generally held without warning so that students become better prepared to respond in case of a real emergency. Our school staffs are well-versed in these drills and will support students as they practice to ensure that everyone understands what is happening and why. You can help by ensuring that your child's school has the most up-to-date emergency contact information and that you notify them if any changes occur.

If you have questions about these drills or your child's school's emergency response preparedness please contact your school principal.

Thank you for your support and cooperation as we work to make CCRSB schools safe and secure places for all students.

Sincerely,

Gary Clarke, Superintendent/CEO
Chignecto-Central Regional School Board