



TUNKHANNOCK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Re: TASD Emergency Procedures to Parents/Guardians

In the unfortunate event that an emergency or disaster situation should ever arise in our area during the school day, Tunkhannock Area School District is prepared. We have designed a thorough Emergency Management Plan, and have established procedures and trained our staff to respond effectively to such situations.

Should a disaster situation ever occur, we would need your cooperation and assistance. While we understand that, every parent's natural instinct in an emergency is to rush to the school to be with his/her child, please understand that doing so may significantly impede the school's ability to respond to the situation. A mass of parents driving to the school would severely restrict emergency personnel's ability to access the building to give care to the students or evacuate them from the site, if that was deemed necessary. We ask that you trust in the preparedness of the school staff and community first responders to swiftly and effectively handle the emergency.

Most specifically, we'd ask that you follow the guidelines explained below:

1. Do not telephone the school. Telephone lines may be needed for emergency communication.
2. Information will be shared with parents via the School Districts All-Call- System, our mass notification system. Parents will receive voicemail messages, as well as email and text messages, throughout the emergency with up-to-date information. Updates will also be posted to the district website, www.tasd.net.
3. Information and instructions on how to reunite with your child will be shared via the School Districts All-Call- System and the district website. In some serious emergency situations, students may be relocated to another facility for safety. Once the students are all accounted for they will be transported by bus to a designated parent reunification site.
4. When you travel to the parent site, please be sure to bring a photo ID. We can only release students to their legal guardians and authorized individuals.

Please remember our ultimate priority in an emergency situation is the safety of our students. Our second goal is to keep parents informed of what is happening. We hope to never have to use the extensive Emergency Management Plan we have in place, however, should a crisis occur our staff is ready to respond.

Sincerely,

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