

MISSOURI SAFE SCHOOLS

Newsletter of the Missouri Center for Safe Schools

August 2007

FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .

As the lazy days of summer begin to wind down, students will be returning to school soon. It is time to review and revise emergency management plans. As in the past, the staff of the Missouri Center for Safe Schools will be ready to assist you in preparing for the possible obstacles that may come your way.

The 2007 Safety Coordinator Online Survey results are posted on the Center's Website (<http://education.umkc.edu/safe-school>). One hundred and forty-two (27%) of the safety coordinators completed the survey. We greatly appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to participate. Some of the survey's findings are listed below:

- Eighty-five percent (120) of the respondents are either a building or district administrator.
- The top five school safety issues that school districts dealt with during the FY06-07 school year were:
 - Emergency Preparedness (74.5%)
 - Bullying/Harassment (70.2%)
 - Cell Phones (56.7%)
 - Internet Safety/Cyberbullying (44.0%)
 - Access Control (43.3%).
- Eighty-nine percent of the respondents reported their schools conducted at least one intruder drill annually.

- Sixteen percent (23) of the respondents indicated a teacher or school administrator had been victims of physical aggression from parents in their school district in the past school year.
- Fifty-six percent (79) of the respondents marked their schools were using the buddy room procedure and green/red signal system in their emergency drills. This is an increase of sixteen percent over last year's findings.

Recently, I had the opportunity to hear Lt. Colonel Dave Grossman speak. He presented a model for lockdown procedures and suggested requirements for classroom security.

- MOVE Model – Secure School
 1. Away (“move” away from danger)
 2. To (“move” to secure location (pre-selected area, secure time for law enforcement to get to site)
 3. Again (“move” again if you have good information)
- Suggested requirements for classroom security
 1. Classroom doors locked at all times. Every classroom must be secure.
 2. Every classroom must have 2 exits.
 3. Door window – limit size/access to door handle.

Note: Lt. Colonel Dave Grossman will be speaking at the First Annual Conference on

Coordinated School Safety and Security in August.

Have a successful opening of school!

Glenn Berry

MISSOURI SCHOOL SAFETY CONFERENCE

The Missouri Conference on Coordinated School Safety and Security is scheduled for August 27 and 28, 2007, at the Hiltons of Branson, 3027 West Highway 76. The keynote will be presented by LTC Dave Grossman, U.S. Army (Retired). Governor Blunt will speak during lunch on August 28. Registration is on-line at www.msbanet.org.

ERIP

Emergency Response Information Plan (ERIP) is an all-hazards preparedness system. Beginning August 1st, 2007, the Missouri Office of Homeland Security is providing ERIP to Missouri educational facilities, including all K-12 public and private schools and Child Care. School district registration will be at <https://erip.dps.mo.gov>.

ERIP's intuitive planning process allows emergency planners to create better plans in less time. This is accomplished by integrating site-specific information into established "best practice" emergency plan templates. Once developed online, plans can be generated into Adobe PDF format so they may be printed and/or saved on local hard drives. Plan updates are tracked and revisions to the "best practice" template are easily disseminated to all users.

ERIP Academy will provide on-demand, detailed training to all personnel. E-learning courses will be provided to educate school staff in areas such as emergency management, lockdown procedures and preventing targeted school violence.

Providing first responders access to critical site information, such as floor plans, is facilitated through ERIP's Critical Information Portal. Facility planners are able to upload facility schematics, photographs and rosters into the secure portal. First Responders are provided special "read-only" access to the data through the Missouri Emergency Resource Information System (MERIS), due to be operational in October 2007.

As soon as ERIP becomes available, the Missouri Center for Safe Schools will load our example emergency operations plans (ShowMe School District and Tiger HS) onto ERIP and will develop information to assist school districts who have adapted those examples for their use.

SAFETY COORDINATOR TRAINING

The schedule for School Year 07-08 Advanced Safety Coordinator Trainings is:

- October 17, 2007 - Southwest RPDC, Springfield (800-735-3702)
- October 23, 2007 – St. Louis RPDC (800-835-8282)
- October 24, 2007 – South Central RPDC, Rolla (800-667-0665)
- October 25, 2007 – Southeast RPDC, Cape Girardeau (800-401-6680)
- November 1, 2007 – Central RPDC, Warrensburg (800-762-4146)
- November 12, 2007 - Northeast RPDC, Kirksville (660-785-4220)

- November 13, 2007 - Heart of Missouri RPDC, Columbia (800-214-2753)
- December 4, 2007 - Kansas City RPDC (800-214-2753)
- December 5, 2007 - Northwest RPDC, Maryville (800-663-3348)
- January 24, 2008 – Southwest Center for Educational Excellence – Webb City (888-855-9478)

Registration will be made directly with the Regional Professional Development Center.

This will be a six-hour training. The topics being addressed include:

- ✓ Update of the Safety Review Checklist
- ✓ Overview of ERIP (web-based tool to assist schools in planning of an emergency)
- ✓ Assessing Threats
- ✓ Bullying Prevention (Intervention/Follow-up Strategies for Bullying Incidents)
- ✓ CyberSafety: What School Administrators should know about Social Networks (e.g. MySpace, Facebook, etc.)
- ✓ Restorative Discipline for Safer Schools
- ✓ Hot Topics – Hazardous Materials Clean-up, Security Cameras and locks, Cell phones, etc.

It would be helpful if anyone who has not completed the Basic Safety Coordinator training does so on-line before attending Advanced Safety Coordinator Training. The Basic Training is free and is done online. Go to <http://education.umkc.edu/safe-school> for the registration form and instructions.

SCHOOL INSTRUCTIONAL USE CHEMICAL CLEANUP

The Missouri Center for Safe Schools has collaborated with the DESE, the Department of Natural Resources, the Homeland Security Safe Schools Working Group, Missouri United School Insurance Council, and others to organize a one-time, statewide cleanup of instructional use chemicals during School Year 2007-08.

The primary goal of this project is to support school districts in the proper disposal of all excess, expired and unidentified instructional-use chemicals at greatly reduced cost.

A letter will be sent to each school superintendent and private school director in mid-August inviting the involvement by schools in the cleanup. Copies of the letter will be sent electronically to those on our safety coordinator email address list. There will be a form attached to the letter that must be completed by the school district and faxed back to the Missouri Center for Safe Schools not later than 4:00 p.m. on September 10.

MISSOURI CENTER FOR SAFE SCHOOLS FEE STRUCTURE

The Center is partially funded by a grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. A school being served by the Center will be asked to pay a “cost share” to offset some of the expenses incurred in providing the services. Listed below is the fee structure for School Year 2007-08:

- \$50 per hour (minimum \$75) for staff workshops, student instruction, and presentations
- \$150-\$500 for a district safety

review as follows:

- \$150 for 3 or fewer schools
- \$250 for 4 to 8 schools
- \$350 for 9 to 15 schools
- \$500 for 16 or more schools

MISSOURI SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION CONFERENCE

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and Missouri KidsFirst are hosting a 3-day conference on sexual assault prevention August 6-8, 2007, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City. The conference begins at 1:30 p.m. on August 6 and ends at noon on August 8.

Registration is \$65 and includes lunch and snacks. You can register online at www.missourikidsfirst.org.

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM COURSE FOR SCHOOLS

The Emergency Management Institute of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides a web-base Introduction to the Incident Command System, I-100, for Schools course, developed in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education. This course is a comprehensive introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS) tailored for school situations. Case studies, scenarios, and video clips of people and places that have been involved in school emergency planning are integrated into the course.

At the completion of the course, participants should be familiar with:

- ICS applications in school-based incidents
- ICS organizational principles and elements

- ICS positions and responsibilities
- ICS facilities and functions
- ICS planning

There are no prerequisites for this course. Completion of IS 700, *An Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS)*, is recommended.

The course is available through the EMI Independent Study website located at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS100S.C.asp>. When you have completed the course, you can take the online exam, fill out the student information, and submit the exam for scoring. Upon successful completion of the exam, EMI's Independent Study Office will notify you via email with a link to print your electronic certificate.

SCHOOL RECORDS PRESERVATION

Dozens of school district have taken advantage of the Local Records Preservation Grant Program offered by the Missouri Secretary of State (under Archives & Records at www.sos.mo.gov). The availability of school records after a disaster will facilitate recovery. For more information about the grant contact Jeanne Martin, Administrative Secretary for the Local Records Preservation Program, 573-751-9047 or Jeanne.martin@sos.mo.gov.

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

State statute 160.775, RSMo, requires every school district to adopt an anti-bullying policy no later than September 1, 2007.

RADON DETECTION PROGRAM

Beginning with 5 counties in 2003, the Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology at the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has continued their program to provide, at no cost, radon testing in K-12 schools. These tests are currently being done for school districts as they request the service. Submit your request to Barbara Sassi, Occupational Safety and Health Consultant, DHSS, 930 Wildwood Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65109, barbara.sassi@dhss.mo.gov, 573-751-6102, or toll-free 866-628-98981.

TRIANGLE OF LIFE

While DROP, COVER, and HOLD is the most familiar and preferred method of protection during an earthquake in this region of the world, rumors continue to resurface on the internet about the validity of an alternative method called the “Triangle of Life.”

The “Triangle of Life,” e-mail falsely claims to serve as the best method for earthquake survival by utilizing ‘voids.’ The King County (Washington) Office of Emergency Management, in concurrence with the American Red Cross, FEMA, and the U.S. Geological Survey, does not agree with this recommendation, citing “Drop, Cover and Hold” as the correct method for earthquake safety in the United States.

Eric Holdeman
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Renton, Washington

Dr. Russ Thompson, Associate Director of the Missouri Center for Safe Schools, is the newsletter editor. If you would like to submit an article for a future *Missouri Safe Schools Newsletter*, please send him your submission by e-mail to thompsonrs@umkc.edu or mail it to: Missouri Center for Safe Schools
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