Each school has a site-specific Emergency Operation Plan. Teachers, administrators, staff and students participate in multiple drills for evacuation, severe weather, and lockdown throughout the year. These drills train and reinforce the expected responses, and test the functionality of each school's Emergency Operation Plan.

Our Emergency Operation Plans are developed with guidance from the U.S. Department of Education, the Federal Emergency Management Administration, and by working closely with local public safety officials.

Keep your emergency contact information accurate and up to date
Be sure your emergency contact information is current. Please update this information promptly when there is a change. During an emergency, LPS will use the same systems that are used throughout the year to make parent notifications. It is important to have several alternate adults authorized to pick up the student listed on the emergency card. Even in the event of an emergency, your student will NOT be released to anyone other than an authorized person on your student’s emergency card. Consider adding a trusted neighbor or your student’s friend’s parents.

Do not call or go to your student’s school unless you have been instructed to do so
Please be patient and keep clear of the school until students are released or reunification procedures begin. It is natural for parents to want to be reunited with their student as soon as possible. However, the first priority of school and emergency staff will be to protect the students, secure the area, and tend to anyone who is injured. For a response to be successful, it is vital that parents not interfere or distract.

Please keep cars away from the school so emergency vehicles can have immediate and clear access to and from the school. Be aware of the reunification procedures.

Monitor the local news, the LPS website, email and your telephone
Official, verified information will be released as soon as possible.

Emergency “alerts” and instructions will be posted to the front page of the District’s website in the event of school emergency. Information and instructions will be released via local media outlets. During an emergency, LPS will use the same system that is used throughout the year to make parent notifications.
**Stranger Danger**

**What you can expect schools to do:**
All visitors (including parents) on school campuses must report to the office to obtain the principal's permission to be there, to sign in and out and to display a visitor badge while on campus.

It is against the law for unauthorized persons to be on campus. Law enforcement will be contacted when needed.

Students are released only to authorized persons.

Field trip chaperones and volunteers will be screened with a background check through ICHAT.

Communicate alerts when they are received from local law enforcement.

**What you can do as parents:**
Make sure your children are taking the safest routes to school and friend’s homes, ones that avoid danger spots like alleys, new construction, abandoned homes and wooded areas. Test walk the route together so they are familiar with it.

Tell your children to be aware of their surroundings and find a trusted adult if they do not feel safe.

Do not approach people they do not know, especially if that person is calling them over to a vehicle.

Establish a code word with your child. This will defeat the “stranger” that tries the “Your parents sent me to pick you up” ploy.

If they think they are being followed, tell them to go to the nearest store or public place. If there isn’t a store or public area nearby, keep moving and don’t be afraid to yell “Stranger!” or make other noise to draw attention to the situation.

Have them report anything suspicious to the police as quickly as possible and provide as much detail as they can.

In an analysis of attempted abductions, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children found the five most common “tricks” used by individuals attempting to abduct a child include:
- Offering a child a ride.
- Offering the child candy or food.
- Asking the child questions.
- Offering the child money.
- Using an animal.

For information regarding registered sex offenders in your area, click here.

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**After a Crisis**

The following statement was made by a parent of a child in a school near the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001:

“Children’s reactions are reflections of their parents. Too many parents expose children to their every emotion: fear, anxiety, anger, worry, etc. The fact is that children want their parents to be heroes. If parents can be strong, this will benefit the recovery.”

Remain calm. It is important to remain calm in the aftermath of a crisis. Children are greatly influenced by their family’s sense of well-being, and anything that families can do to reassure students will be helpful. At the same time, families need to be compassionate listeners when their children speak of the crisis.

Attend to children’s reactions. Be alert to their emotional needs. Individuals recover from crises at their own pace. Many children will benefit from mental health services, regardless of whether they were directly or indirectly involved in the incident.

Return your child to normal routine as quickly as possible. Families should adhere to the schedule of the school, and if the school remains open immediately after the crisis, it is important to let children return. Adhering to a typical routine will help children in the recovery process.

Refer the media to the District Communications Office at 734-744-2533. The media will try to interview families and children during or after a crisis. Families can make a very positive contribution to the school community by referring the media to the District Communications Office.

Attend community meetings. Families will receive invaluable information and support by attending community or school meetings. Community meetings often provide information helpful to dispel rumors and establish mechanisms of communication with parents, the media and other affected parties.

**OK2SAY Tip Line:**
OK2SAY is a 24-hour program designed to empower Michigan students, parents, school personnel, community mental health service programs, and law enforcement to share and respond to student safety threats. To learn more about OK2Say, click here.

Phone line: 1-855-565-2729
Text to: 652729
Email: ok2say@mi.gov

Mobile app available on iPhone or Android devices, or on the OK2SAY web site.

**Livonia Public Schools Anonymous Tip Line**
It is preferred that the OK2Say tipline be used. Okay2Say is staffed 24 hours. The LPS Tip Line is only reviewed during business hours. The LPS Tip Line is 734-744-2545.