

# SCHOOL Safety Matters

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## Monthly Safety Tips

### Summer Fire Danger

Schools are a leading arson target, and this risk grows during the summer months. Longer days, increased free time for potential arsonists, empty buildings and warmer, dryer conditions can combine to have destructive results. To minimize this danger, be on the look out for possible catalysts such as piles of debris, dried vegetation, portable toilets being stored near our buildings, power poles, or other structures. If your school should have the unfortunate experience of fire damage, contact Risk Management at x4560 and Public Safety at x1911. It is also important to remember that you are required to report any sign that a fire has occurred to a local or state fire marshal, including seemingly minor trash can fires.



Report **all** School Fires  
Call (503) 629-0111  
And request an On-Duty Fire Investigator.

“Any Fire,  
Any Size,  
Anywhere,  
Every Time”

In the final issue of *School Safety Matters* for 2013-2014, we recognize that most of us are working to bring a successful end to this school year. For others, however, this is also a time to begin to prepare for summer school. This valuable program will be occurring at many of our schools this year, and although it differs in many ways from our September to June programs, the important ingredients of our culture of safety remain the same. We have the same obligation to provide adequate supervision, report and investigate accidents, and address and protect students and staff from potential hazards. For any safety related questions this summer or any time of year, please contact Risk Management at (503) 591-4560.



### 911 Calls

In February, we talked about the importance of calling 911 for emergencies requiring a quick response from emergency personnel. We have since learned of a common misconception that these phone calls must be made from the main office of the school. In emergency situations, where seconds make the difference, this is not the case. Rather, the closest, most convenient phone should be used whether it is in a classroom, office or cell phone. When time allows, the main office staff then needs to be informed so that the proper reporting procedures can be followed. The following are some examples of when 911 should be called:

- Is the person's condition life or limb threatening?
- Could their condition worsen and become life or limb threatening on the way to the hospital?
- Could moving them cause further injury?
- Are they in a location that makes it unsafe for them to be moved?
- Do they require the skills or equipment of paramedics or emergency medical technicians?
- Would distance or traffic conditions cause a delay in getting them to the hospital?

Make the right call, if it is potentially life-threatening, or you are in doubt, don't guess...call 911.

### Weather

Oregon in June is a contradiction of beautiful, sunny weather followed by rain and even thunderstorms. June 23-29 is National Lightning Awareness Week. Whether planning outdoor family events or school-sponsored sporting events and activities, it is important to be aware of this danger and know what steps to take to keep ourselves, and those in our care, safe. For tips, go to <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/>



*Please call Risk Management at ext. 4560 if we can help you with any safety question or if you have any safety tips that should be forwarded to the rest of the District.*