

**Board of Education
Las Cruces Public Schools**

POLICY EB

Related Entries: EB-R, ADF, KI, KI-R, KLG, KLG-R
Responsible Office: Associate Superintendent for Operations

Safety Program

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of Policy EB is to establish a policy that promotes a healthy and safe environment for students, teachers, staff, parents and community members.

II. BACKGROUND

It is the Board's belief that a healthy, safe and supportive learning and working environment promotes personal and academic growth and development, wellness, productivity and positive interpersonal relationships. Therefore, it is the Board's desire and expectation that the school district promotes a climate and culture of safety before, during and after school hours.

- A. The Board recognizes the benefits of a healthy, safe and supportive learning and working environment, as well as a safe and orderly environment for public use.

III. POSITION

- A. The superintendent shall ensure the following:
 - 1. The district utilizes the New Mexico Public Education Department (NM PED) Safe Schools Plan Guidance in developing a safe schools plan, which focuses on supporting healthy and safe environments and includes, but is not necessarily limited to, prevention, mitigation, emergency response, protection, and recovery procedures.
 - 2. Each school and administrative building an/or department has an approved safety plan that conforms to the NM PED Safe Schools Plan Guidance.
 - 3. The district has a district-wide Safety Committee whose purpose shall be to develop and recommend to the Superintendent safety policies and regulations consistent with Board policy, which encompass all schools and administrative offices, and assist individual principals/directors in addressing safety-related issues within their specific school/department.
 - 4. Each school and each administrative building and/or department have a school-based safety committee.

5. The district's safety program complies with applicable state fire codes and safety codes. The safety program will specify:
 - a. Regulations for schools and administrative departments that address safety training, drills, response, pesticides, hazardous chemicals, lab/shop safety, after accident investigations, traffic, Safe Routes to School, and safety inspections.
 - b. The schools/departments will participate regularly in drills and update safety procedures.
 - c. The schools/departments will maintain the physical environment through a preventative maintenance program to address safety concerns on playgrounds, fields, facilities, classrooms, office spaces and parking lots by implementing safety inspections.
 - d. Playgrounds will be maintained per the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Public Playground Safety Handbook (CPSC Handbook).

IV. REVIEW

This policy shall be reviewed on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

Maria A. Flores

Board of Education, President

May 16, 2017

Date Approved

History: New Policy; formerly #185; revised 01.30.07; revised 02.17.15; revised and renamed from "Environmental and Safety Program 05.16.17

Legal Reference: NMAC 6.12.6.8 (D); 6.29.1.9 (B)(N)(O); 6.19.3, NMSA 1978; 76-4-1 through 39 and 22-13-14