



# Policy: Emergency Evacuation Bomb Threats

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## 1.0 Policy Statement

- 1.1 In keeping with the commitment of the Superior North Catholic District School Board to maintain a safe learning environment, it is the policy of the Board that schools have current emergency evacuation plans or procedures in place.

## 2.0 Rationale

- 2.1 The Ministry of Education, school boards, and police services continue to work in partnership to create safe school environments. This work includes planning and preparation in the event that a bomb threat is received, an explosive device is discovered, or an explosives incident takes place. All school boards in Ontario must establish a bomb threat response policy and procedures.

### 3.0 Policy

- 3.1 In response to the changing landscape of school security the Ministry of Education recently released a new Bomb Threat Protocol. School boards and local police are expected to have revised their own local protocols to include best practices for bomb threats in each school's Emergency and Crisis Response Plan.
- 3.2 While most of what the policy provides is termed "Effective Practices" that have arisen from the recommendation of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, there are two mandatory requirements.
- 3.3 All publicly funded elementary and secondary school boards establish a bomb threat response policy to ensure the development and implementation of individual school plans.
- 3.4 Each board must ensure that its staff, students and other partners are aware of their obligations/responsibilities within the individual school plans.

### 4.0 What Is the Role of the Principal in the New Policy?

#### 4.1 The Principal is responsible for:

- The overall development and content of the individual school plan.
- Inviting police, fire and emergency medical services to participate in the plan development and making them aware of planning and drills.
- Training of staff and students.
- Being completely familiar with the school's bomb threat plan and with the scope of his/her authority and responsibilities associated with the principal's position as defined in the plan.

### References

- Ministry of Education, "Provincial Model for Local Police/School Board Protocol," (2015).

- George Zegarac, Deputy Minister of Education, Memorandum to Directors of Education and District School Boards, "Revised Provincial Model for a Local Police School Board Protocol," (9 September 2015).
- Ada Chidichimo Keon., "Ministry Releases New Bomb Threat Procedures". Borden Ladner Gervais, (January 2017).
- P-ES 309/AP-ES 309 Police and School Protocol

## Approval and Review Dates

Prior Date Approved: May, 2009

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