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From: IMS News [IMSnews@ISSAQUAH.WEDNET.EDU]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2006 9:35 AM
To: IMS@LISTSERV.ISSAQUAH.WEDNET.EDU
Subject: IMS School Safety

Parents,

Due to the recent news regarding school shootings, we thought this would be an opportune time to let you know about our school safety procedures. Your students may have informed you that we practiced a successful high level lock-down drill on Tuesday afternoon. The Issaquah Police were here to check the building during the lockdown and were able to give us valuable suggestions. In case you didn't know, the following are some procedures IMS has in place to make sure your children are safe:

- Our staff is trained every year in our emergency procedures.
- At the start of each school year, students are trained to know what to do should the building go into lock-down, how to evacuate the building safely in case of an evacuation and how to duck and cover for earthquakes. We conduct monthly evacuation drills as well as random lock-down and earthquake evacuation drills.
- We lock our gates soon after the morning bell rings and check the gates several times during the day to make sure they remain closed.
- All staff and visitors are required to wear identification badges or lanyards.
- All visitors enter the building through the main doors and are asked to stop in the office for clearance to enter the building. Visitors are asked why they are on campus and their identification is checked. If they are cleared, they are given a visitor lanyard.
- Visitors are not allowed in the Commons during our student lunches.
- We have "WalkAbout" volunteers patrolling our halls before school, at lunches and after school.
- PTSA has provided the funding for us to purchase an emergency supplies storage container. The container is stocked with supplies such as blankets, water, snacks, portable toilets, and temporary shelters for a triage station. We have other needed equipment and first aid supplies out there as well.
- PTSA has also provided supplies for classroom support in case of a lockdown. This includes a portable toilet, snacks and provisions for diabetic students.
- We work closely with the Issaquah Police and Eastside Fire and Rescue who provide additional support. They advise us on our emergency procedures by observing our practices and helping us to refine our procedures.
- Last year we installed 3 security cameras and are installing 4 more this year.
- Our building has a representative who works closely with the District Safety Committee to make sure IMS is in compliance with all school safety procedures.

Although it may be inconvenient to be asked to check in at the Office and have your ID checked when you are on campus, we value your cooperation and appreciate your help in keeping your children and our campus safe.

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