



**NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
P.O. BOX 129
NORTHFORD, CONNECTICUT 06472**

Scott Schoonmaker
Superintendent

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Dear Parents:

Should an emergency or disaster situation ever arise in our area while school is in session, we want you to be aware that the schools have made preparations to respond effectively to such situations.

Should we have a major disaster during school hours, your student(s) will be cared for at their school. Our School District has a detailed emergency operations plan which has been formulated to respond to all hazards.

Your cooperation is necessary in any emergency.

1. Do not come to the school or telephone the school. Telephone lines may be needed for emergency communication. You will be notified of a reunification location, if necessary.
2. In the event of a serious emergency, students will be kept at their schools until they are picked up by an identified, responsible adult who has been identified as such on the school emergency card which is required to be filled out by parents at the beginning of every school year. Please be sure you consider the following criteria when you authorize another person to pick up your child at school:
 - He/she is 18 years of age or older.
 - He/she is usually home during the day.
 - He/she could walk to school, if necessary.
 - He/she is known to your child.
 - He/she is both aware and able to assume this responsibility.
3. If students are to be kept at school, parents will be notified via phone, email or school messenger. If electrical service is not affected, information will be relayed via school messenger.
4. In addition, information regarding day-to-day school operations will be available by calling the District Office. We also use an emergency notification system known as school messenger.

5. Impress upon your children the need for them to follow the directions of any school personnel in times of an emergency. Students will be released only to parents and persons identified on the School District Emergency Card. During an extreme emergency, students will be released at designated reunion locations on the school campus or elsewhere if necessary. Please be patient and understanding with the student release process. Please instruct your student to remain at school until you or a designee arrives. Because local telephone service may be disrupted, also list an out-of-state contact on the emergency card, as calls may still be made out of the area while incoming calls are affected.

When the dangerous incident has subsided, an all-clear signal will be given.

Please discuss these matters with your immediate family. Planning ahead will help alleviate concern during emergencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Schoonmaker".

Scott Schoonmaker
Superintendent