

What steps does the Dallas Independent School District take to protect its children from disasters such as tornados?

<p>Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Principals receive training within established Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIM) guidelines on emergency preparedness on man-made, technological, and natural hazards including tornados. ▪ Principals select teams to write their emergency operations plans. ▪ The composition of these teams include principals, assistant principals, teachers, nurses, youth action officers, safety coordinators, and others ▪ This process includes assessing risks and staff skills as well as responses during an emergency. ▪ This process addresses reuniting students with parents after an emergency.
<p>Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Every year, principal select campus emergency operations teams. ▪ The campus planning process includes identification of evacuation sites if the school becomes unsafe. ▪ The district writes emergency operations plans that are aligned with the Governor's Division of Emergency Management standards including natural hazards among other incidents.
<p>Drills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each campus conducts fire drills monthly as required by the Texas Department of Insurance. ▪ In addition, each campus is required to conduct two drills per semester. These drills include one evacuation-type drill and at least one drill per semester where students remain on site, such as: lockdown, shelter-in-place, reverse evacuation, and/or "drop, cover, and hold." ▪ The district staff members--including the General Superintendent--participate and practice solving problems that involve emergency preparedness through tabletop exercises. The last exercise, held in September included officials from the Dallas Police, Fire, Office of Emergency Management, Dallas County, and the Red Cross. ▪ Campuses in each area are also participating in similar training experiences.
<p>Regional partner relationships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Dallas ISD has a close working relationship with the City of Dallas Office of Emergency Management, the Dallas County Office of Security and Emergency Management, and the North Central Texas Council of Governments. ▪ The Dallas ISD and partners have collaboratively developed procedures to help first responders, like fire and police to quickly assess the tactical situation at a school during an emergency.
<p>Campus equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each campus has a Go Kit with some essential emergency equipment. ▪ Some Go Kits have been provided by the district; others have been provided through the generous support of our community. ▪ Additional equipment is being pursued through federal grants. ▪ Campuses have received free all-hazard NOAA weather radios from the federal government.