

**BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**June 14, 2022**

***SUBJECT:***

Approval of the following policy:

Policy EBCB Safety Plans and Drills, Second Reading

***BACKGROUND INFORMATION:***

Effective July 2, 2018, in the South Carolina Code of Laws Section 59-17-160, “each school district board of trustees and the governing body of each charter school shall adopt a policy and program for school facility fire and safety, including inspections, before the beginning of the 2020-2021 School Year.” In a memorandum dated May 25, 2021 from the Director of Governmental Affairs, the requirement for policy adoption was extended to July 1, 2022.

***ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:***

Policy EBCB Safety Plans and Drills meets the adoption of policy requirement of South Carolina Code of Laws Section 59-17-160. The policy provides guidance to the district to develop a program for the district and schools that ensures the safety of learning environment.

***RECOMMENDATION:***

Approve the following administrative rule and policies:

Policy EBCB Safety Plans and Drills, Second Reading

***ATTACHMENTS:***

Policy EBCB Safety Plans and Drills

***PREPARED BY:***

Dr. Tim Yarborough  
Dr. Salvatore Minolfo

## SAFETY PLAN AND DRILLS

Code **EBCB** Issued **6/22**

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Purpose: Recognizing that providing a safe school environment is necessary to support the academic success of each student, and acknowledging that maintaining a safe environment requires both a partnership with local emergency officials and responsible care by the facility owners; and in accordance with the requirements of SC Code of Law 59-17-160, the district adopts the Model Fire and Safety Policies and Program Guidelines as published by the SC Office of State Fire Marshall and the SC Department of Education to include:

- A. Partnership with the local fire code official who will perform routine fire and life safety inspections and partnership with the State Fire Marshal's Office where the local government or local fire department does not provide such services.
- B. Performance of monthly Safety Self-Assessments in accordance with the guidance provided by the SC Office of State Fire Marshal and SC Department of Education.
- C. Performance of monthly fire drills.
- D. Reporting of the above via the electronic resource provided by the SC Department of Education.

Resources to carry out this policy are made available on the SC Department of Education website. The SC Office of State Fire Marshal will provide support when requested. In accordance with the SC Code of Laws 59-17-160, this policy will be posted on the district website following the adoption in an open school board meeting.

Adoption: 6/14/22

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Legal references:

- A. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
  1. Section 59-17-160 - Model fire and safety policy and program guidelines; posting requirement.
  2. Section 59-63-910, *et seq.* - Required public school drills.
- B. S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:
  1. R43-166 - Student and school safety; emergency and disaster plans.
- C. Other References:
  1. 2020 Model Fire and Safety Program Guidelines.