

## What can parents do to help during an emergency?

- Please do not call and do not go to the school.
- In an emergency, school officials and law enforcement are focused solely on keeping everyone safe, and no one is allowed to enter or exit the school. Showing up to the site can create unnecessary traffic, preventing emergency vehicles from responding quickly. You could also put yourself or others in danger. Once the all-clear is given, students and staff will be permitted to enter or exit the school again. Parents will be reunified with students as quickly as possible.
- In an emergency, parents often receive a call or text from their student. If this happens, help him or her remain as calm as possible. Remind your student that school staff know what to do in an emergency situation and will work to keep everyone safe. Review safety protocols at home with your child.
- Please know the district will communicate with parents/guardians about reunifying them with their child as quickly as possible. This reunification site may not be at their student's school. The district will announce where a reunification center is. Parents/guardians will need to provide identification in order to pick up their child.

### See something? Say something!

All Sedro-Woolley School District staff members, parents, students and community members are encouraged to report anything they see, hear or are made aware of that may impact a school or school program. If you see or hear something, say something, call 911.

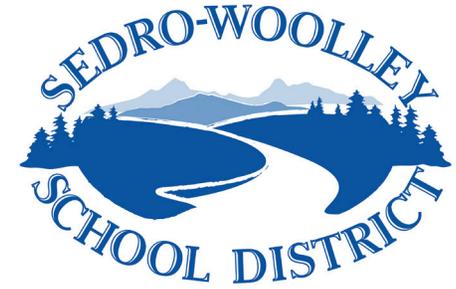
## Why didn't I receive an auto-dial?

Each lockdown can be different in terms of severity and impact on school day and families. For instance, if a lockdown is put into place but is lifted after a few minutes with minimal impact to the school day, your principal may decide to send a letter home for informational purposes. In other cases, principals will decide to use an emergency auto-dial, post information on the district's Facebook page, or send a letter home with students. Parents could receive information from multiple platforms. This could include multiple auto-dials, as well as written letters after the fact. During an emergency lockdown, parents are also encouraged to check the district's official Facebook page for updates. If you receive a call from the district's main number (360) 855-3500, please do not call the number back without first listening to the message on your voicemail. This ties up phone lines during an emergency situation.

*\*If your emergency contact information is not up to date, you may not receive an auto-dial.*

### Can I pick up my child during a lockdown?

During a lockdown, your child's school is a secure area. School officials and law enforcement are working together to keep everyone safe, and no one is allowed to enter or exit the school. To ensure everyone's safety we ask that parents please refrain from coming to school campuses during a lockdown. Once the all-clear is given, students and staff will be permitted to enter or exit the school again.



*A parent's guide to  
school safety  
terminology and  
protocol*

## What is a lockdown?



A lockdown is an emergency measure taken in response to a threat made directly to the school.

During a lockdown:

- Interior and exterior doors on campus are locked.
- No one is allowed to enter or exit the building.
- Parents will not be allowed to enter the school during a lockdown.
- Parents are discouraged from calling the school directly. Additional calls hinder the ability of staff to respond to the primary task: keeping everyone safe.

## How will I know if my child's school is on lockdown?

When a lockdown is put into place, police and schools work to first ensure the safety of everyone on the school campus. During a lockdown, a flashing strobe light will be activated. Once the situation has been stabilized, an auto-dial may be made to parents. The call would inform parents that the school was placed on a lockdown, the nature of the incident, approximately how long the lockdown was in place, and what action parents/guardians may need to take for reunification. Sedro-Woolley School District may take the following steps to notify you:



- Post updates on the district's official Facebook site
- Make auto-dials to parents/guardians\*
- Notify and update local media

## What is a lockout?

A lockout is used to secure the building from a potential threat outside the building, such as when an unauthorized person is loitering on school grounds or when there is criminal activity in the neighborhood. Exterior doors are locked but normal activities continue inside the building. A lockout may be implemented during severe weather or other environmental threats to keep people safe.

## How will I know if a school is on lockout?

When a lockout is put into place, district administrators and staff work together to first ensure the safety of everyone on the school campus. Students and staff will stay or return to the inside of the school building. Parents are not typically notified if the building is on lockout. During a lockout, it's business as usual inside the school. At some Sedro-Woolley schools, classes will not transition between periods.

### Parent contact information

\*Emergency auto-dials use phone numbers parents have provided to the school. **Parents/guardians:** please ensure your school has your most up-to-date emergency contact information. In the event of a lockdown or other emergency, staff will use that information. If you have not received an auto-dial from your school (the same system is also used for special announcements and events), please check your contact information with the school.

## What is an evacuation?

An evacuation is when students and staff are moved out of the building to a pre-designated safe location. An evacuation can occur in situations such as an earthquake, flood, or hazardous materials spill.



## What is a reunification site?

A reunification site is an alternative site where school administrators will check-out students to the child's parent/guardian. Students will only be released to authorized parents/guardians with proper identification (e.g. driver's license, state identification, etc.)

## Where are the reunification sites?

The Sedro-Woolley School District has a reunification plan. There are several established sites that could be used as needed. Students would be transported to the site via buses and the locations would be announced via auto-dials and at the school where the emergency occurred.