WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW IN CASE OF SCHOOL EMERGENCIES

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Emergencies do happen in most unexpected time in every place in town, city or country. It can be natural disasters such as fire, flood and earthquake or man-made such as bomb threats and terrorists. Children are mostly vulnerable to disasters for they are too young to handle such situations. They still depend on their parents or other adults in the family, in the community and even in school.

The school IS defined as safe, child-friendly, gender-sensitive and motivating environment where students learn and interact with others. School safety covers an expansive term connected with different operations in every school. Schools are taking actions on how to make themselves safer and ready for a disaster or emergency.

Parents are truly cautious in choosing the right school for their children not only for their scholastic achievements but for their safety as well. Ensuring the safety of the children is exceptionally important for the parents that they question the safety measures and operations of the school. Parents are entitled to ask about the school’s plan in tending dangers such as fire, flood, earthquake, bomb threats and terrorists. Parents must attend in the orientation and conference that the schools hold, in that way, they can be informed of the plans that the school has prepared in case of emergency. They have to be knowledgeable about the school plan. All schools must have an organized, step by step emergency procedures design in order to lessen the hazards or avoid, be ready, react to and recuperate from an emergency state. Death, accident and natural emergencies are the kinds of crises that affect people within the school. Safety coordinators are present in every school, or the district supervisors can act as safety coordinators. Series of trainings and seminars are being held to assess the urgency of incidents and react in line to the plan.
that the school has established. Parents must understand that they are the best supporter of their children that is why they to be aware of the information about the school’s readiness to comply with such situation.

In United States, The White House has unconfined an operation plans that will serve as a guide of the community, inculcate the lessons that have learned from the incidents and react accordingly to the needs and distress brought by the shooting incidents in Newtown and Oak Creek. Students are the most affected party in such situation, sometimes even an emergency drill can bring emotional suffering due to prior incidents that have happened to them. In order to save the students from distress, parents may initiate a conversation to cope up with a traumatic experience. In line with this, a set of helpful strategies that parents must remember when dealing with children about school safety has enumerated below:

1. Children must be oriented with brief and basic information teamed with reassurance. They must understand that their school and home are protected and that adults are willing to defend them.

2. Students that are already in upper elementary and in middle school are more curious and may ask questions, therefore parents may share the information about school’s safety plan. Reassure them that the school is ready for such emergencies.

3. High schools students are already aware of the sources of violence inside the school. They must learn the role that they have to do in maintaining the school’s safety by following the rules and regulations of the school.

After an emergency, it is necessary for the students to receive an emotional support, parents may tell their children that they are just around whenever they feel to talk.

Teachers must work hand in hand with the parents to help students that are distressed. They have to put in mind that their obligation in securing the safety of their
children does not halt by sending them in school. They have to be aware of the signs that students are in need of help. To secure the student’s welfare is everybody’s responsibility not just by the teacher, school administrators but also the parents outside the school.

Reference:

https://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/emergency-preparedness-in-school/