



Here in BUSD, we continually work to maximize student and employee safety in our schools. We do this by:

- Maintaining excellent relationships with the sheriff and fire departments and city officials in each of our cities. They always provide outstanding rapid response service whenever called.
- Regularly practicing schoolwide drills, including lockdown drills, to prepare for worst case scenarios.
- Maintaining an emergency communication system that we use to connect rapidly with our parents by phone, text and/or email.

As a parent, here are some of the pieces of expert advice that can be followed when dealing with safety and tragedy in our schools and other community situations:

- Talk to your children. Bad things do happen, but there are many people in our schools and our community working to keep everyone safe.
- Limit exposure to the news. Video footage will be repeated in the next few weeks, and we need to monitor carefully.
- Try to keep a sense of normalcy in your children's lives.
- Look for signs of anxiety, and if you see them, let us know and we will work with you to address your child's needs.
- Experts say that many children may not be affected by these types of events since they occur outside of their community. That is OK, and as parents, it is our job to continue monitoring and listening to our children.

In times like these, we are reminded that every single adult in our school community contributes to our students' safety and well being. Thank you for caring, loving and doing all you do for your child and teachers of the Bellflower Unified School District.

Brian Jacobs, Ed.D.
Superintendent