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Fall
2018

From your Districtwide Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Newsletter

The Great California Shake Out

*Being prepared is the best way to improve safety in the event of an earthquake. Join GCCCD on **October 18th, 2018 at 10:18 a.m.** to take part in the Great Shake Out Drill- the worlds largest earthquake drill. The campus community is encouraged to participate by practicing **DROP, COVER and HOLD ON** to something sturdy for about 30 seconds to 1 minute. GCCCD will also be completing our annual emergency text and email notification system test and all registered users should expect a message on the day of the drill.*

[Please visit our Public Safety website for earthquake preparedness tips.](#)



Code Word Safety

Protect you and your family with just one (or two) words!

Do you work in an office that often encounters upset or agitated customers? Is it uncomfortable to call for help or say out loud that you feel vulnerable?

Code words are the perfect way to avoid these situations and have been proven effective when dealing with hostile interactions. Workplace emergency code words are any words or phrase used during a conversation that alerts others to a problem and summons help as quickly as possible. Use a code word or phrase to alert a co-worker to call 911 or the Sheriff's non-emergency number (x7800) when you don't want the suspect or hostile person to know. The code word or phrase should sound innocuous enough so the person causing the problem doesn't understand, but common enough so it won't be used accidentally in the course of normal business. Practicing this method and constant communication amongst teams is crucial to protecting office space. Try using the code word in a fun team-building exercise during departmental meetings.

You will be surprised by the creative ideas that flow from your co-workers. Code words may also be used with a child at home or at-risk adults.

Various types of safety training are available through the Public Safety Office. Email

District.Parking@gcccd.edu for more information.

Action items:

- Decide which communication methods to use as a team.
- Identify a code word or phrase and notify your entire department.
- Design a phone tree or in-person notification plan.
- Identify primary and secondary points of contact for distributing emergency information.
- Write clear and concise sample messages for the points of contact to use and include in your safety plan.
- Practice emergency communication as a team often.
- Avoid using multiple code words.
- Ensure that staff do not think it's funny to play practical jokes with code words.

Safety reminders from your GCCCD Sheriff's Deputies...

- ✓ Look up from your phone! Watch where you are walking, and keep pathways safe for you and others.
- ✓ Did you just realize you were walking while reading this on your phone?
- ✓ Keep your purse, wallet, keys and other valuable items out of sight. If you must leave them in your vehicle, always hide them in the trunk.
- ✓ Remember to secure doors behind you. Thefts of convenience are just too easy for a criminal. Don't be a victim of theft and secure your valuables!
- ✓ Always report suspicious activity.
- ✓ Never leave backpacks or large cases unattended. This creates undue worry for others and may result in unnecessary emergency response.
- ✓ Turn off classroom and office lights when you leave. Do not highlight the items you have inside.



Submit a suspicious activity report (SAR) anonymously through the San Diego Law Enforcement Coordination Center

[Click here for a form.](#)



Hang up and drive!

Did you see it? There was a real crashed vehicle parked at each campus for one week to demonstrate the consequences of texting and driving. In addition to the Sheriff's hang up and drive campaign, fliers were distributed throughout the District highlighting the ramifications of these activities.



SAFE DRIVING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

COMMON VIOLATIONS

- * Cell phone use while driving **\$162 FINE**
- * Headphones over both ears while driving **\$198 FINE**
- * Seatbelt **\$198 FINE**
- * Stop sign **\$198 FINE**
- * Not yielding right-of-way to a pedestrian **\$239 FINE**

FACTS

- * In 2016, 3450 people were killed and 391,000 were injured in collisions involving distracted drivers.
- * 5 seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while using a cellular phone. At 55 MPH, that's enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded.

