

R 8420.8 CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Pupils will not be permitted to leave the school building when a crisis of wide dimension occurs of a local, national or international nature. Pupils will not be permitted to leave their classrooms when an intruder who poses a threat to the security of pupils is suspected of entering the school building.

1. All pupils will be confined to the school building for the school day. Pupils will only be permitted to leave the building during school hours in the company of a parent/guardian or designated emergency contact person.
2. Open Lunch privileges for Juniors and Seniors at Westfield High School will be suspended.
3. Pupils will be informed about a catastrophic event in the following manner:
 - a. Elementary and intermediate pupils should not be made aware of the crisis, and the school day should continue as normally as possible. Use of the Internet should be suspended for pupils. Parents should be notified about how the school is handling the crisis. Pupils can be released from school to parents/guardians or designated emergency contact person. If the Principal/designee has been unable to reach parents and to prevent pupils from returning to an empty house, pupils should remain in school or at an alternate site with a responsible staff person;
 - b. High School pupils should be told of the disaster in a classroom setting. Teachers should have a similar format for reporting news to pupils. Pupils whose parents may be affected by the crisis should be allowed to use the telephone to try to reach their parents.
4. Counselors should be available at all schools during and following the crisis.
5. There should be a district-wide statement for all schools prepared by the Superintendent that provides information about how the school district is handling the crisis.