
VAN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



PRESS RELEASE

**Superintendent
Don Dunn**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VISD BOARD REVIEWS DISTRICT'S EMERGENCY PLAN

Van ISD maintains a network of security procedures to keep our children and staff safe. There is no plan that guarantees 100 percent safety to all students and staff in our schools in every situation. Because of recent school shootings in our country, the Van ISD Board of Trustees and administration determined it necessary to review the district's emergency plan.

After consulting with our school attorney, local law enforcement, DPS officials, and pursuant to its authority under Texas Penal Code 46.03(a)(1), the board authorized specific school employees and other persons to possess certain firearms on school property, at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events, and at board meetings in accordance with board policy CKC(Local).

By approving this policy, the board addressed concerns about effective and timely response to emergency situations at schools including invasion of the schools by an armed outsider, hostage situations, students who are armed and posing a direct threat of physical harm to themselves or others, and similar circumstances.

Please rest assured that we will remain vigilant. Van ISD will continue to do everything we can to ensure that our children are educated in an environment that is safe, healthy, and supportive.

**SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT
EMERGENCY PLANS**

**CKC
(LOCAL)**

**EMERGENCY
OPERATIONS PLAN**

The Superintendent shall ensure updating of the District's Emergency Operations Plan and ongoing staff training.

FIREARMS - PURPOSE

The Board adopts the following policy to address concerns about effective and timely response to emergency situations at schools, including invasion of the schools by an armed outsider, hostage situations, students who are armed and posing a direct threat of physical harm to themselves or others, and similar circumstances.

AUTHORIZATION

Pursuant to its authority under Texas Penal Code 46.03(a)(1), the Board may, from time to time, authorize specific school employees to possess certain firearms on school property, at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events, and at Board meetings. Specifically authorized individuals shall be approved by separate action of the Board. The Board shall issue written authorization to approved employees.

**CONCEALED
HANDGUN LICENSEES**

Only those authorized school employees who have obtained and maintain a current license, in accordance with state law, to carry a concealed handgun are eligible to be authorized to possess a firearm on school property.

TRAINING

Any school employee authorized to possess a firearm on school property shall be provided additional training in crisis intervention, management of hostage situations and other training as the Board or designee may determine necessary or appropriate.

**PERMITTED
AMMUNITION**

Only frangible ammunition, i.e., ammunition designed to have reduced ricochet hazard, will be permitted in firearms authorized to be on school property.