

Emergency Evacuation Policy & Communication

In the unlikely event of a natural disaster or emergency, SBMS faculty and staff are highly trained and have detailed plans in place to respond to a variety of circumstances. Our faculty and staff are annually CPR certified and trained in routine fire, earthquake, and intruder safety and evacuation procedures at school. In addition, the medical care that our faculty and staff routinely practice during our trips ensures that our faculty has the medical supplies and expertise to care for your child during an emergency.

For small and local emergencies, parents will be notified via our school's emergency automated call system and/or email of pending school closures or evacuation. During a citywide emergency (wildfire or earthquake), phones may not work. A detailed, three-stage evacuation plan is listed below. The faculty will care for and ensure the safety of your child until a family member can reach them.

CAMPUS EVACUATION

Stage 1: If time is permitting and threat is not immediate, such as in the case of voluntary evacuations by Santa Barbara City or County Fire Personnel, parents will be notified that early pick-up is requested by SBMS within a specified timeframe.

Stage 2: If students are unable to be picked up within the specified timeframe or we need to evacuate the campus quickly, students and teachers will evacuate campus either by vehicle or on foot and wait for parent pick-up at the larger parking lot on the west end of the **Cabrillo Bath House, 1118 Cabrillo Blvd.** This location was chosen in collaboration with Santa Barbara City Emergency Services because it is removed from several congested areas, has relatively easy access to the freeway, and works well with the Riviera Association Emergency evacuation plan. Depending on traffic during an emergency, the arrival of students, teachers and parents at the Bath House may be delayed. However, this location is very safe, has bathrooms, food, and indoor access while students await parent pick-up. Faculty and staff will stay with students as long as necessary.

Stage 3: In the unlikely event that we do not have time to safely evacuate campus, we have been advised and are prepared to shelter in place. Due to its concrete construction design and wide buffer around the perimeter of the building, the campus is considered by Santa Barbara Emergency Services to be a secure location to take shelter, if necessary.

EMERGENCY ALERT COMMUNICATION

SBMS uses an automated voicemail and text message system to deliver important information to parents. We will send messages to the emergency contact phone number(s) that you provide to the school.

An emergency or disaster is a very stressful situation. Please make sure the school has your most current contact information. Be assured that your child is receiving the best possible care in the safest place with our well-trained Santa Barbara Middle School faculty and staff during an emergency.

If you have any questions regarding safety and or fire please feel free to contact Lilli Doner in the office at lilli@sbms.org or Health and Safety Director Victor Dominocielo at victor@sbms.org.