
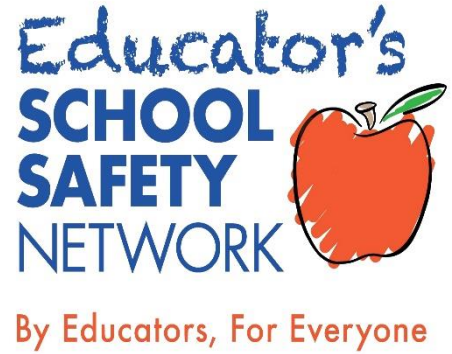


Tips for Principals - October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1</p> <p>Worry about safety first. Parents will forgive you if the cafeteria runs out of chicken nuggets, test scores fall, or the football team loses, but they will never forgive you if something happens to their child at your school.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Providing high quality professional development for your teachers is critical. ESSN offers free, on-demand school safety webinars and podcasts that are BY educators, FOR educators. www.eSchoolSafety.org/onlinepd</p>	<p>3</p> <p>There's never enough supervision in schools - especially before and after school. You aren't the only one who can do it - collaborate with staff to create a plan for strategic, active supervision.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>The odds of a child dying in a school shooting are 1 in 614 million. The odds are greater that a student will die on the way to school or playing a school sport. Plan and train for more than an active shooter event.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Don't ignore one of your most valuable safety resources. Communicate with parents about safety protocols and procedures. Help parents understand what they can to help you in this important work.</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Give some thought to what goes on at your school after hours. Is there adequate supervision outside of the school day? Do coaches and other after school staff know what to do in a crisis event?</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Be ready to communicate and respond. Carry your radio, your cell phone, and your keys at all times - they are the tools of the trade.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>You have students in your school right now who know something you should know. Talk to kids about disclosing what concerns them. It's not tattling or ratting out a friend, it's "see something say something".</p>	<p>9</p> <p>It's Fire Prevention Week. Remember that fire drills are practices for actual evacuations and fires, not just an empty exercise. Have your next fire drill during lunch, or block an exit and see what happens.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Enhance your own professional practice by watching our <i>School Safety Free Period</i> livestream today at 3:30 EST, www.eSchoolSafety.org/podcast Can't make it? Listen to it later as a podcast.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Keep safety in the forefront all year long. Include a safety item on each staff meeting agenda for a quick discussion or review.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>It's not "just a threat". Dealing ineffectively with threats creates anxiety, panic, bad PR, the loss of instructional time - and more threats. Develop an appropriate, measured response to threats of violence.</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Expand your professional library with <i>Keeping Students Safe Every Day</i>, a great all hazards resources for principals. https://amzn.to/2n0aMvX.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>It's critical but easily overlooked - learn where the utility shut offs are at your school.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Could you really account for every student and staff in your school today? How accurate and available are your attendance, sign in and out sheets, and other accountability mechanisms?</p>	<p>16</p> <p>It's National Bosses Day. Taking responsibility for the safety and security of a school is a tall order. Take care of yourself; you desire it.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Jump start your staff development by watching the Live Stream of our <i>Online Academy</i> at 3:30 EST today. https://bit.ly/2kIVcIS. Or gather your staff and use the webinar recording starting Monday.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Take a moment to critically reflect on your school's daily operational and safety procedures. Are we doing this thing because it's convenient for the adults or because it's good (or safe) for kids?</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Resist and overcome the normalcy bias - the tendency to think "this _____ can't be happening". Something bad might really be happening and you need to do something about it.</p>

Tips for Principals - October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20 Stay up to date on the latest in school safety. Subscribe to professional journals and other resources - like the monthly <i>School Safety News Update</i> available at www.eSchoolSafety.org/update .	21 Are staff members really accessible to students or do they have their face in a screen or are talking to other adults? Critically examine the obstacles to disclosures that are present in your school.	22 Take a moment and approach your school like a visitor. Is there adequate directional signage? Are visitors appropriately and effectively screened AND welcomed?	23 Build the professional capacity of your building level safety teams or your entire staff with a professional learning community around school safety and violence prevention. Go to https://bit.ly/2mXQZ05 for a facilitator's PLC guide to <i>Keeping Students Safe Every Day</i> .	24 Evacuation and trip hazards are everywhere in schools. Walk around and identify the impediments to a rapid evacuation. Get rid of backpacks on the classroom floor, items in front of exits, and junk blocking hallways.	25 Sometimes the most vulnerable classroom in the school is the one with the substitute teacher. Do your substitutes have the training to know what to do and have the resources to respond to a crisis event?	26 As much as you may want to, you will not always be there when a crisis occurs in your school. Provide training and guidance to all of your staff in order to decentralize authority and decision making in a crisis event. Everyone needs to know what to do.
27 The climate and culture of a school has a direct impact on safety AND academic achievement. Check out <i>Shaping School Culture by Deal and Peterson</i> for specific leadership strategies.	28 It's National First Responder's Day. Collaboration with first responders is critical in safety planning and crisis response. Notice that it's collaboration, not abdication of authority.	29 Access control does matter. Do a spot check for propped open doors, unused areas that aren't locked, and other access control vulnerabilities.	30 Would anyone in your school be able to identify a suspicious, and potentially explosive item? Searching for suspicious items is almost impossible when duffle bags and backpacks are left everywhere and storage areas are overflowing. Get rid of junk and put daily items in designated places.	31 In the words of GOT - Winter is coming. What are some of the specific safety concerns that you need to be anticipating now?	 <p>Educator's SCHOOL SAFETY NETWORK</p> <p>By Educators, For Everyone</p>	
www.eSchoolSafety.org						

