

STORMS/TORNADOS

(Priority 2)

DEFINITIONS:

Severe Thunderstorm Watch: Severe thunderstorms may occur (rain, hail, high winds).

Severe Thunderstorm *Warning*: Severe thunderstorms are occurring with rain, hail, and high winds.

Tornado Watch: TORNADOS are possible. Remain alert for approaching storms.

Tornado *Warning*: A funnel cloud has been sighted or indicated by radar. Move to a place of safety.

STEPS OF ACTION: (Use same steps for a practice drill.)

TEACHER/STAFF:

THE SIGNAL for a tornado or drill will be a **verbal announcement** on the P.A. and/or **emergency signal** from P.A. or emergency horn, **NOT Fire Alarm.**

CLOSE classroom doors and windows.

GO to the designated safety area. Students should assume a sitting position, facing the wall, with hands and arms covering the head.

Under no circumstances are students to remain in rooms on the west side of the building, in the gym, or portables.

If you are unable to make it to the designated area, choose an area away from glass windows, wide free span ceilings and outside walls which may be blown in.

KEEP students quiet so directions may be called down the halls.

TAKE attendance books and red/green cards, stay with classes and assume the same position for protection, make sure drill is being followed and verify student classroom count.

OFFICE:

ACTIVATE BERT.

SIGNAL tornado or drill by verbal announcement on P.A. and/or Emergency Signal, or emergency horn, **NOT Fire Alarm.**

POST weather spotter during a tornado warning. (Look for dark greenish sky, wall cloud, large hail, and loud roar like a freight train.)

CHECK weather conditions and listen for TV/radio bulletins.

DO NOT attempt to transport students home until the warning is lifted.

MAINTAIN contact with Superintendent.