

# SAFETY ALERT

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No. 03-05

RESPONSE TO ELEVATED TERRORISM THREAT LEVEL

March 2003

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On March 17, 2003, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security raised the national threat level to "orange," signifying a high risk of terrorist attacks. In response, the Superintendent has directed all Site Administrators review emergency plans and disaster supplies. Specifically, it is recommended that Site Administrators:

- Review and update emergency procedures
- Inventory and update emergency supplies
- Maintain current staff and parent contact information
- Conduct a daily review of the campus perimeter and designated assembly areas
- Check emergency lighting and communications
- Strict enforcement of ID badges for staff & 100% visitor identification check
- Discuss emergency procedures with staff to ensure familiarity with designated responsibilities
- Report suspicious activity to LAPD Homeland Security Bureau at 1-877-A-THREAT and School Police at (213) 625-6631

To assist in this review, Site Administrators may refer to the District's *Model Safe School Plan* and *Model Emergency Response Plan* which are available on the OEHS web page at [www.laschools.org/oehs](http://www.laschools.org/oehs). District bulletins dealing with emergency preparedness may also be obtained from this web site. In addition, OEHS Safety Alert 03-04 provides recommended actions for LAUSD schools in response to changes in the national threat level issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

School staff may find the following documents useful in addressing the concerns of students during periods of elevated risk of terrorism: *Terrorism – Preparing for the Unexpected* (American Red Cross at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)) and *Teacher's Guide for Talking to Students in the Setting of War* (National Center of Children Exposed to Violence at [www.nycenet.edu](http://www.nycenet.edu)).

For further information, contact OEHS at (213) 743-5086.

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