Administrative Procedure Manual

Safe Schools Working Alone Procedure

AP: 222

All Swan Valley School Division employees who are required to work alone will implement the following procedures

Periodic Contact

Employees who are required to work alone will have regular access to a telephone or one of the Division's two way radios and will have periodic contact with the supervisor or other designated personnel as is reasonable.

Employees who choose or are required to work alone outside of regular office hours shall ensure that a personal designate (co-worker, spouse, friend etc.) knows that they are working. In the event the employee as scheduled does not contact his or her personal contact, the personal contact will attempt to contact the employee. If the employee cannot be reached or located, the personal contact will contact the following in the order listed, until someone is notified:

- The employee's immediate supervisor and /or designate (e.g.: School Principal or Vice Principal)
- The employee's Divisional Supervisor (e.g.: Maintenance Supervisor)
- The local police service

General Precautions for Non Divisional Personnel:

- Report to building office personnel (school secretary, principal etc.) upon arrival and departure. Indicate your work plan when you are working in a building. Make sure to sign in and sign out on the school visitor form.
- If the office has a cordless phone/two way radios or if you own a personal alarm or cell phone, have it on hand at all times. Be familiar with the location of the telephone(s) in the school / office. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 911.
- Be aware of posted emergency numbers such as police, fire, ambulance, hazardous materials information line, and the school's address and phone number.
- Lock your vehicle while at work.

General Precautions for Divisional Personnel:

- Be knowledgeable about co-workers' duties and routines, and plan a set time to meet for breaks.
- Ensure that all exterior doors are secure when scheduled activities have concluded.
- Walk in well-lit areas when entering or exiting the building.
- If possible, exit the building with other workers after completing your shift.
- Implement a personal contact routine.

Sample Working Alone Procedures

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Maintenance Staff & Computer Technicians	Working Alone Situation	Minimum Procedure
Low Risk Tasks	Traveling alone in a vehicle	Prearranged personal contact or the ability to make contact by phone or two way radio
High Risk Tasks:	Working in confined spaces (e.g.: crawl spaces etc.)	Refer to Confined space entry SWP.
	Working with hazardous materials; high pressure systems; moving equipment or machinery	Buddy system, scheduled personal contact or two way radio
	Working at heights or on scaffolding (e.g.: painting, roofing, etc.)	Buddy system, frequent scheduled personal contact or two way radio
	Working outside in extreme weather conditions (e.g.: snow clearance, outside maintenance work)	Buddy system, scheduled personal contact or two way radio

Bus Drivers	Working Alone Situation	Minimum Procedure
Low Risk	Traveling alone in a vehicle	Prearranged personal contact or the ability to make contact by phone or two way radio
	Traveling after hours	Prearranged personal contact or the ability to make contact by phone or two way radio
	Extreme weather conditions	Prearranged personal contact or the ability to make contact by phone or two way radio

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Custodial Staff	Working Alone Situation	Minimum Procedure
Low Risk	Working alone after normal work	Scheduled personal contact by
	hours	phone
High Risk	Working in confined spaces	Buddy system, frequent
	(crawl spaces etc.)	scheduled personal contact cell
		phone, or two way radio
	Working with hazardous	Buddy system, scheduled
	materials; high pressure systems;	personal contact cell phone or
	moving equipment or machinery	two way radio
	(e.g.: working with cleaning	
	products, working on boiler	
	operations / tests)	
	Working at heights or on	Buddy system, frequent
	scaffolding (e.g.: replacing light	scheduled personal contact cell
	ballasts / light bulbs)	phone or two way radio
	Working outside in extreme	Buddy system, scheduled
	weather conditions (e.g.: snow	personal contact cell phone or
	clearance, outside maintenance	two way radio
	work)	

Instructional / Administrative Staff	Working Alone	Situation Minimum Procedure
Low Risk	Traveling alone in a vehicle	Prearranged personal contact or the ability to make contact by
		phone or two way radio
	Traveling after hours	Prearranged personal contact or
		the ability to make contact by
		phone or two way radio
	Working alone after normal work	Prearranged personal contact or
	hours	the ability to make contact by
		phone or two way radio
Staff Assigned to Call Outs		Intrusion alarm call-out Buddy
		system or contact local Police

If a staff member feels that a particular work situation is not safe, he/she has the right to refuse the task and notify his/her supervisor to investigate the situation.