



ARCHDIOCESE
of PHILADELPHIA
SCHOOLS
AMERICA'S FIRST CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SAFETY AND ACTIVE SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

New Teacher Orientation
August 18, 2020

MRS. BERNADETTE DOUGHERTY
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools

SAFETY

“The church as a mother is under an obligation, therefore, to provide for its children an education by virtue of which their whole lives may be inspired by the spirit of Christ. At the same time it will offer its assistance to all peoples for the promotion of a well-balanced perfection of the human personality, for the good of society in this world and for the development of a world more worthy of man.

It should watch over the health of the pupils and in general promote the work of the schools in its entirety. In this, however, the principle of subsidiarity must be borne in mind, and therefore there must be no monopoly of schools which would be prejudicial to the natural rights of the human person and would militate against the progress and extension of education, and the peaceful coexistence of citizens.”

Declaration on Christian Education, Vatican II, *Gravissimum Educationis*, 1965.



COVID-19

Best Practices

- **Building Operations**
 - Entering and leaving the building
 - Recess (elementary)/Change of Class (elementary & secondary)
 - Lunch
 - Daily health monitoring
- **Classroom Operations**
 - Seating arrangements
 - Shared materials
 - Using masks
 - Monitoring student health



SAFETY DRILLS

- Fire Drills
- Lock Out
- Lock Down
- Evacuation (Flee)
- Shelter in Place
- Parent Student Reunification Plan



EMERGENCY / CRISIS

Lockout! Secure building perimeter.

- **Teachers/staff**
 - Bring students inside
 - Take roll
 - Shades down
 - Resume teaching
 - Cell phones on
- **Students**
 - Come inside
 - Class as usual



When the threat is outside and the building is used for protection.



EMERGENCY / CRISIS

Lockdown! Lock...Lights...Out of Sight

- **Teachers/Staff**

- Lock classroom door
- Lights out/shades up
- Move out of sight
- Take roll
- Notify if missing, extra or injured students
- Cell phones on mute
- Maintain ABSOLUTE SILENCE
- Wait for responder to open door

- **Students**

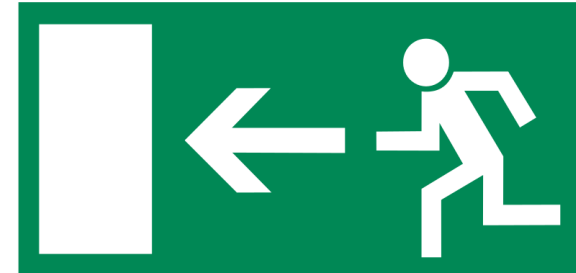
- Move out of sight
- SILENCE



EMERGENCY / CRISIS

Flee! Type and Location

- **Teacher/Staff**
 - Lead to safe evacuation point
 - Take roll
 - Cell phones on ringer
 - Notify if missing, extra or injured students
- **Students**
 - Leave your stuff behind
 - Form a line
 - Hand in hand (for elementary students)



When the threat is inside the building and getting out is the safest route to take.



EMERGENCY / CRISIS

Shelter! (Directions will be given)

- **Teachers/Staff**

- Take roll
- Cell phones on
- Notify if missing, extra or injured students
- Shades down
- Move away from windows
- Wait for directions

- **Students**

- Follow teacher's directions
- Move away from windows



SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

The goal of student supervision is a safe school environment.

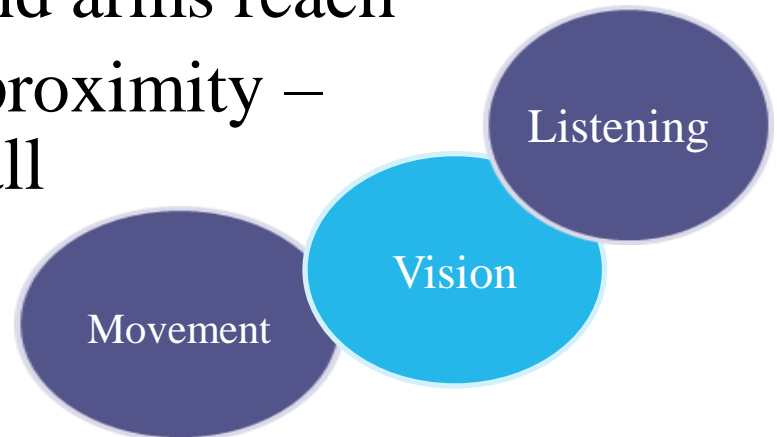
- Proactive student supervision ensures student safety
- When incidents happen, it helps minimize negative outcomes
- Areas of supervision
 - in the classroom, gymnasium and lunchroom
 - in hallways, locker-rooms and restrooms
 - in areas and activities that take place on the way to and from school
 - elementary teachers – during playground activities and at recess



ACTIVE SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Three dimensions of supervisor's active behaviors are important:

- Attention – the extent of watching and listening
- Proximity – within vs. beyond arms reach
- Continuity of attention and proximity – constant/intermittent/not at all



SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

When assuming supervisory responsibilities you must be there both physically and mentally

Teachers may never leave a classroom unattended

- In the event of an emergency contact the principal/vice-principal immediately
- In the event that a teacher needs to converse with another teacher, that is to take place before school, during lunch/break time, after school or during a prep period when both teachers are free

Students may not perform heavy maintenance chores



NEGLIGENCE

Two types of Negligence

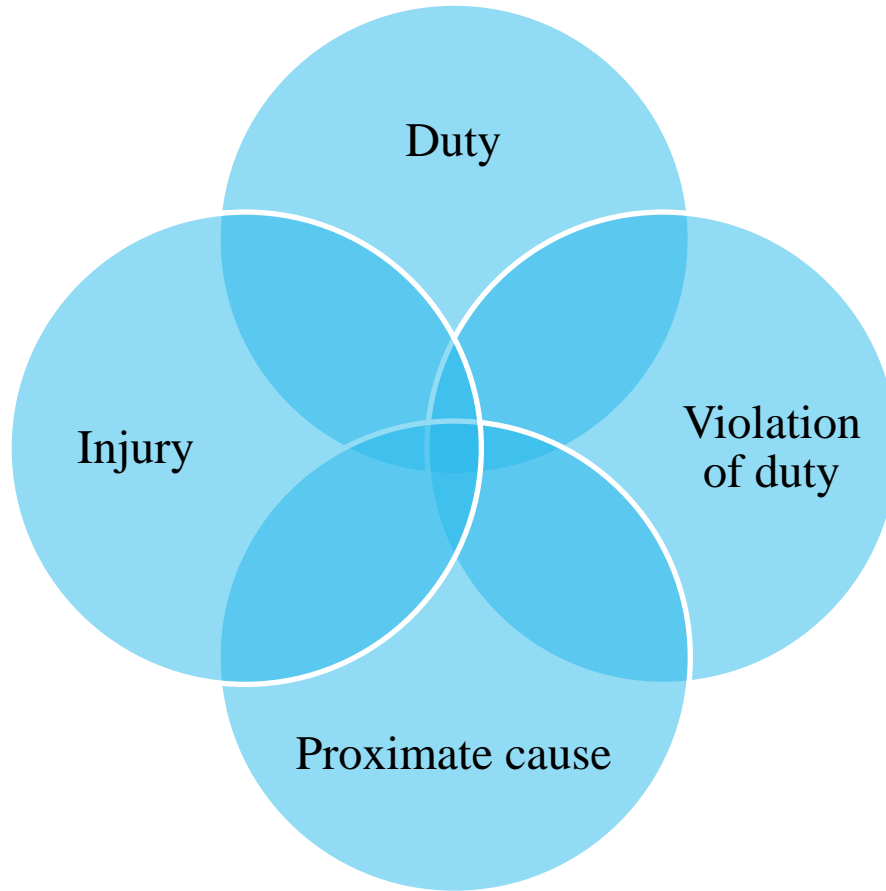
- Omission – the failure to do what should have been done
- Commission – the doing of something that led to an injury

Teachers are responsible to use good judgement
and common sense

- Be familiar with all policies and procedures



FOUR ELEMENTS OF NEGLIGENCE



DUTY

Students have a right to safety

Teachers and administrators have a responsibility to protect the safety of all entrusted to their care



VIOLATION OF DUTY

If a teacher responsible for the supervision of the playground/lunchroom/hallway does not attempt to stop an act that would allow injury

If a teacher leaves the classroom unattended

If a teacher does not take reasonable precautions to ensure that accidents will not happen



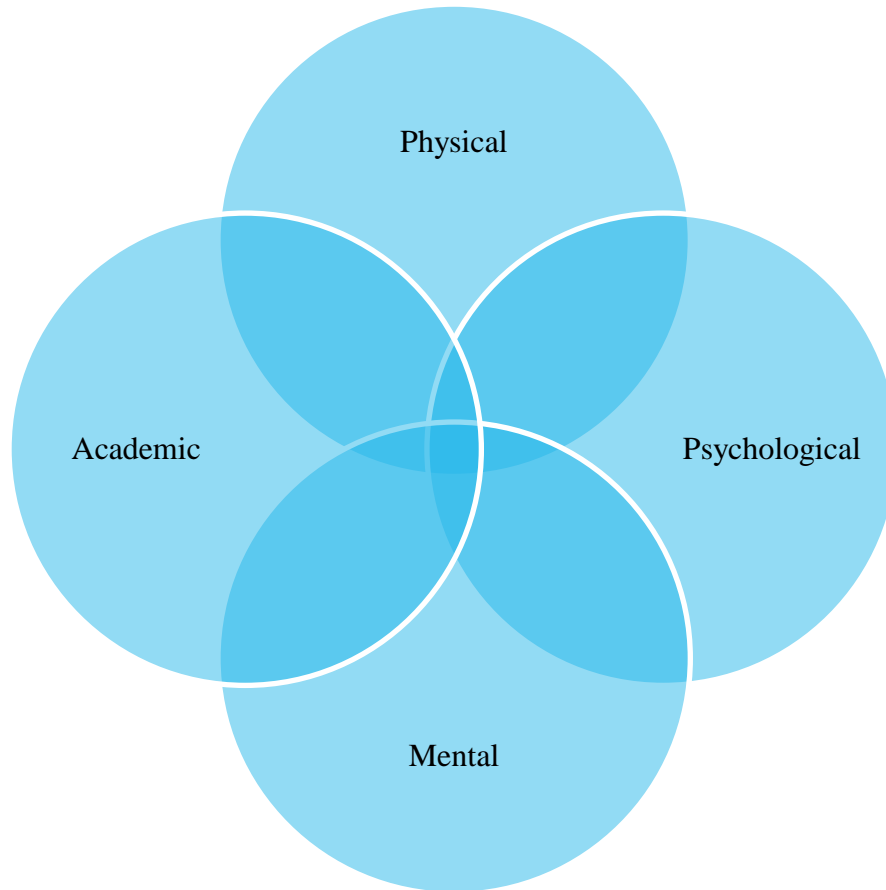
PROXIMATE CAUSE

If the supervisor had done what should have been done, there would have been no injury

If the supervisor had not done the thing that was done, there would be no injury



INJURY



RESOURCES

Elementary Schools – Review Section 1000 Safety Requirements of Elementary School Policies and Procedures 2017 and All Hazards Safety Plan 2013

Secondary Schools – Review Section 300 Safety Procedures 2015

Elementary Schools – Review local school crisis plan and COVID plan

Secondary Schools – Review local school crisis plan and COVID plan

Sr. Mary Angela Shaughnessy, S. J. (2009). *Selected Legal Issues in Catholic Schools*. Washington, DC: National Catholic Education Association.



Mrs. Bernadette Dougherty
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools
Office of Catholic Education
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299
215-587-3743 office
215-651-4730 mobile
bdougherty@archphila.org

