



August 31, 2023

The safety and welfare of children, students, and staff are the highest priority at Salt River Schools. All our campuses practice safety drills throughout the year to help prepare staff and students for real emergency situations.

Today, August 31, lockdown drills were practiced at the Early Childhood Education Center and the Accelerated Learning Academy. The lockdown drill was led by our Safe Schools & Security Team, in partnership with the Salt River Police Department. Our school campuses each conduct four lockdown drills every school year, or as needed. This type of drill secures the school building and safely shelters all students, staff and visitors inside the building.

The purpose of this drill is to ensure that during a real emergency, children, students, staff, and visitors are kept safe from any danger that may occur outside or inside the building. During a lockdown drill, all perimeter doors to the school building are locked and remain locked until the danger or issue outside or inside the building is removed. To ensure everyone remains safe, no one will be allowed to enter the building or leave the building until school and law enforcement officials authorize such a release.

Our school has worked closely with local authorities, representatives from U.S. Homeland Security, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to correctly develop and implement safety procedures. The goal of practicing emergency drills throughout the school year is to improve our ability to protect students, save lives, and reduce injuries. These practice drills allow us to evaluate our emergency operation plans and improve our response skills.

We are pleased with the outcome of today's drills and feel reassured that our safety plans can be implemented effectively by our staff.

Please note: During a real emergency, parents and emergency contacts of students will be notified during and after the event by Salt River Schools administrators through our SchoolMessenger notification system, which includes phone calls, texts, and email, among other platforms.

As such, it is important your contact information on file be current. If you need to update your contact information, please contact your school's front office. It is important that parents and emergency contacts do NOT attempt to contact the school, teachers, or students during a real emergency as that could impact everyone's safety.

Your child may tell you about today's drill and it is important to talk with them about why it's important and ask what they learned. Our goal, while practicing important safety procedures, is to be sure all students feel safe.

If you have any questions or need further information, please call the ECEC at 480-362-2200 or the ALA at 480-362-2130.