



# SchoolGuard

News and information for School Community Emergency Preparedness

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## School, Fire and Law Enforcement Staff Attend Training at Emergency Management Institute



Front L-R: Leslie Roberts, Vicki Todd, Steve Turner, Carol Ciraulo, Angelina Meza, Valerie Lawe, Maricela Zamora, Steve Burrell.  
Back: Craig Zachlod, Erik Baarts, Orell Massey, Chuck Yates, Larry Wise, Jim Switzer

Fourteen representatives from Mendocino County schools, law enforcement and local fire departments attended training at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland to learn how to more effectively plan for a disaster.

“It was one of the best, most useful trainings I’ve been to in my 14 years in education,” said Steve Burrell, assistant principal at Eagle Peak Middle School.

Training included simulations of potential disasters, giving everyone a role with the emergency management system of command. Sixteen hazards have been identified in the county; they range from earthquake and chemical spills, to armed individuals and bombs on school campuses. Any of these hazards can lead to a disaster if not handled properly.

“I appreciate the way classes at EMI focused on disasters that are real possibilities,” said Steve Turner, Director of Maintenance and Operations for the Ukiah Unified School District.

During an exercise, the critical issue of how to effectively reunite parents and children in the wake of a disaster was raised. In the confusion, any chance of a clear count could be lost, and a child left trapped in a building. Burrell said “School officials are working on a plan to teach students to evacuate and gather in an orderly manner.”

Another simulation supposed a cloud of toxic gas floating through the area and included incorrect information from a firefighter. Evacuating students to another location was planned and discussed.

“Individuals on the team were encouraged to exercise their own judgment,” Turner said of course training.

The collaborative nature of the group was also an important element, since the group was composed of both

school officials and emergency personnel. It's important that they learn to work together in an emergency.

"The training provided a common structure. It's important to have familiarity with the different agencies involved in an emergency," said Leslie Roberts, Regional Administrative Secretary for MCOE.

However, as important as it is for schools to be able to work with emergency personnel, it's just as important that schools be able to manage things themselves until police and fire officials arrive.

"We have to prepare as if they're not going to come," said Maricela Zamora, counselor at Pomolita Middle School.

Zachlod said the training is designed to help the attendees train others how to prepare for and respond in an emergency. "School personnel who attend EMI training are in a position to help train other personnel."

Attendees plan to put their training into practice, working on disaster drills that will keep students and community members safe.

The EMI is operated by the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.



## **EMI Participants in Action**

The individuals that attended Multi-hazard Planning for Schools have been actively putting their experiences into action throughout the valley. The following is a partial list of drills, exercises and activities schools in our area have taken part in.

Incident Command Structure and Earthquake Table Top Exercise - Ukiah Unified District Leadership.

All Campus Evacuation Drill - Grace Hudson Elementary.

Crisis Response Table Top Exercise - UHS administration.

Crisis Response Table Top Exercise - Yokayo Elementary and Preschool Village.

Teen Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) - Pt Arena HS, Mendocino HS, Ukiah HS and MCOE Alternative Education Programs.

## **An Experience and A Commitment**

By Craig Zachlod

In October 2006, I was privileged to be a part of the group of 14 diverse educators and first responders who attended the Emergency Management Institute. Along with similar groups from around the country, we participated in an intensive train-the-trainer workshop in Multi-Hazard Planning for schools.

Our acceptance of the training opportunity came with a commitment and an obligation to share the knowledge and lessons learned with others throughout our school communities. We now have a great opportunity to utilize our Train the Trainer (TTT) graduates as resources to help schools throughout our region learn what we learned. Please submit your requests for multi-hazard school training workshops and planning assistance directly to the Region 1 project office. Contact Leslie Roberts or Craig Zachlod at 467-5026

### **Drills and Exercises Available:**

Drills:

Bomb Threat

Intruder on Campus

Hazardous materials release

Explosion

Incident Command System

Exercises:

Tabletop – using a disaster scenario, discuss plans, policies and procedures

Functional – role play student care, student accounting, parent/student reunification, medical treatment, emergency public information, logistics, decontamination.



## Teens Learn Community Service, Health and Improved Self Esteem

What is Teen CERT?

The primary goal of Teen CERT is for students to learn basic preparedness and response skills. If a disastrous event overwhelms or delays the community's professional response, citizens can better protect themselves by applying the response and organizational skills that they learned during training. These skills can help save and sustain their lives following a disaster until help arrives. Teen CERT skills also apply to daily emergencies.

First Steps in Launching Teen CERT in Mendocino County

- First Teen CERT introductory workshop held in Ukiah in September 2006 with students, teachers and first responders. Workshop conducted by Haley Rich founder of Teen SERT program.
- Pilot project for Teen CERT in schools will include Mendocino HS, Pt. Arena HS, MCOE Alternative Education School and Ukiah HS.
- CERT provides students with personal, family and school emergency preparedness competencies.
- CERT replicates adult Community Emergency Response Program and can become part of the regular Health and Community Service Curriculum.
- CERT provides career development experience and opportunities for those who wish to work in emergency management and response.
- CERT provides students an opportunity to serve their school communities, interact with mentoring adults and members of the first responder communities.

- CERT training and community service helps improve personal preparedness, self concept and often results in improved school behavior and academic performance
- CERT training includes Moulage (disaster exercise theatre makeup) that is fun but also helps students to identify injuries and help victims.

Teen CERT will Teach Students to:

1. Describe the types of hazards most likely to affect their homes and communities.
2. Describe the function of CERT and their roles in immediate personal response.
3. Take steps to prepare themselves for a disaster.
4. Identify and reduce potential fire hazards in their homes and workplaces.
5. Apply basic fire suppression strategies, resources, and safety measures.
6. Apply techniques for opening breathing airways, controlling bleeding, and treating shock.



7. Conduct triage under simulated conditions.
8. Perform head-to-toe assessments.
9. Employ basic treatments for various wounds.
10. Identify planning and size-up requirements for potential search and rescue situations.
11. Describe the most common techniques for searching a structure.
12. Use safe techniques for debris removal and victim extrication.

## Upcoming Training Opportunities

### School Emergency Response

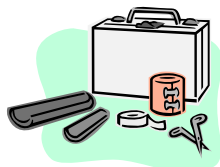
This workshop will provide participants with the awareness, knowledge and practical skills to develop crisis response or disaster preparedness plans that meet Federal and State requirements. Local First Responders will help school officials know how to coordinate during a crisis. Participants will engage in table-top scenarios to practice skills.

February 2, Sonoma County Office of Education

February 8, Lake County Office of Education

To register, visit [www.scoe.org/training](http://www.scoe.org/training) then select Safe and Drug Free Schools.

Sponsored by Sonoma County's Safe and Drug Free Schools



### Crisis Response and Recovery for Schools

This class will provide information in the following areas:

Preventing and preparing for a crisis

Creating your team - linking to SEMS/NIMS

Delegating roles and responsibilities

Assessing the school's needs in time of crisis

Coordinating the logistics

Managing the flow of information & the media

Supporting students, parents and staff

February 8, Fort Bragg

February 9, Ukiah

March 1 and 2, Humboldt County Office of Ed.

Day one is for School Administrators and staff

Day two is for Counselors and site Psychologists

To register for the Fort Bragg or Ukiah class contact Leslie Roberts at [lroberts@mcoe.us](mailto:lroberts@mcoe.us)

To register for the Humboldt class, please visit [www.scoe.org/training](http://www.scoe.org/training) then select Safe and Drug Free Schools.

Sponsored by Region I School Emergency Preparedness and Sonoma County's Safe and Drug Free Schools

### CERT Train the Trainers

This 24 hour course is designed to prepare trainers to teach the CERT material to community members by demonstrating instructional methods. Topics include terrorism, disaster fire suppression, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, and team organization and management. Participants in this course will practice what they have learned in short teaching presentations. This course is open to individuals who have taken the CERT program or have some working knowledge of CERT and related response.

Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday, February 23, 24, 25, Ukiah Fire Department

Prior authorization required from Fire Marshall Chuck Yates: 463-6264. To register, contact: Cindy Stanford at [stanford@cityofukiah.com](mailto:stanford@cityofukiah.com)

Sponsored by City of Ukiah.

### Bullying Prevention in Elementary Schools and Programs

According to the National Association of School Psychologists, every day in America 160,000 children miss school for fear of being bullied. This workshop will focus on the difference between bullying and teasing; school-wide, classroom and individual strategies for preventing bullying in your school; skills practice; action planning and sustainability; and resources including Second Step, Let's Get Real, Don't Laugh at Me, Get Real About Violence, Safe School Ambassadors, and others. There is no charge for this workshop.

April 20, Eureka

Sponsored by Sonoma County's Safe and Drug Free Schools.

