



SafetyNet

NJSIG'S SAFETY NEWSLETTER



School Reopening Guidance:

- [NJDOE Restart and Recovery Plan for Education Executive Summary](#)
- [NJDOE Restart and Recovery Plan for Education](#)
- [Office of the Governor: Mandates & Announcements](#)
- [CDC School Reopening Guidance](#)
- [NJ Department of Education](#)

COVID-19 Resources:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [New Jersey Department of Health](#)
- [Legionnaires Disease](#)
- [NJSIG COVID-19 Resources](#)



Exciting News!!!

**NJSIG Gives Back
\$7,736,735
to Members
in 20/21!**

\$3,279,199 in COVID-19 Refund!

\$4,457,536 in Safety Grants!

NJSIG's Safety Grant Portal Opens April 1, 2021!

- [Click here](#) for more information about NJSIG's COVID-19 Refund.
- [Click here](#) for more information about NJSIG's Safety Grant Program.

New Jersey Schools Insurance Group

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www.njsig.org

Virtual and In-Person Safety Committee Meetings



School districts' priorities may have shifted since March 2020. But one thing has not changed: schools' emphasis on keeping students and staff safe during these uncertain times. Hybrid, remote, in-person, oh my! As we try to navigate the remainder of this school year, we want to keep safety a top priority, which is why NJSIG would like to support our members in bringing back your district's Safety Committee meetings.

Tips and Suggestions:

- **Diversity:** A successful Safety Committee should encompass a diverse combination of district employees, involving the district's Safety Coordinator, as well as a cross-section of certified and non-certified administrative staff. Consider including the superintendent(s), business administrator(s), facilities manager(s), as well as your district's insurance broker(s).
- **Communication:** Safety Committee meetings should be scheduled regularly (quarterly, monthly, etc.) to promote and develop a healthy and safe environment for all employees.
- **Proactive:** The Safety Committee's goal should be to identify and eliminate workplace safety hazards. The Safety Committee should conduct reviews of workplace accidents, identify potential trends or unsafe conditions, and make a plan to address them.
- **Results-Oriented:** Safety Committees should set an agenda in advance of their meetings and keep meeting minutes. Consider posting the meeting minutes in an area where employees have an opportunity to read them and learn about the Safety Committee's work.

NJSIG's Safety and Risk Control department is available to attend virtual and in-person Safety Committee meetings. Please contact your Safety and Risk Control Representative or email riskcontrol@njsig.org to get started.

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February is Heart Month

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, causing about 1 in 4 deaths. There are many types of heart disease, some of which can lead to a heart attack or sudden cardiac arrest. Though heart disease remains extremely common, lifestyle changes can lower your risk, and the right knowledge can help you keep your co-workers safe.

Seventy percent of deaths from heart attacks occur before reaching the hospital, so immediate action could save a life. However, many bystanders lack confidence in their ability to take action in these situations. Here is what you should do if a co-worker, loved one or other person around you is experiencing the signs and symptoms of a heart attack or cardiac arrest:

- Call 911 immediately, even if the person or others say it's not serious
- If at work, activate the company emergency action plan
- If there is an automated external defibrillator (AED) available and the person is unconscious, follow the instructions on the device
- Start CPR if the person isn't breathing or you don't find a pulse

Sources / Resources:

[Click here](#) for more information from the American Heart Association.

[Click here](#) for more information from the CDC



Since 2017, New Jersey requires schools to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in the immediate vicinity of all fuel-burning appliances. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas that is a product of combustion and the leading cause of accidental poisoning in the U.S.

Common Symptoms of CO Poisoning:

The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are headaches, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. CO symptoms are often described as "flu-like." If you breathe in a lot of CO it can lead to loss of consciousness and even death.

Equipment Awareness:

Some types of equipment/activities that may emit CO include:

- Gas and oil heating and cooling systems: boilers, furnaces, central and unitary equipment.
- Generators: permanent and portable.
- Natural gas and propane appliances: water heaters, ranges, stoves and ovens and laundry washers and dryers.
- Gasoline powered floor polishers, lawnmowers, weed eaters, leaf blowers, chainsaws, power washers and other tools.
- Bunsen burners, ovens and kilns in labs.
- Welding and burning.
- Vehicles idling near exterior doors, windows, air intake vents and loading docks.
- Vehicles idling in repair garages, whether for vocational education or maintenance of district vehicles.

Sources / Resources:

[Click here](#) for more information from NJEA

[Click here](#) for more information from the CDC

[Click here](#) for more information from National Safety Council