

October 28, 2016

Dear Parents:

As we proceed with our District Goals in nurturing kinder and more compassionate schools and continuous improvement, we've enlisted the help of meteorologists, including representatives from the National Weather Service in Milwaukee, to revise the Weather Hazard Plans in the District. Those experts came onsite to review our facilities and offer feedback on our updated plans as we continue to improve our processes for safe practices and procedures during inclement weather. Based on making these improvements, the District is being recommended for StormReady Certification; only 18 other school districts nationwide have reached this designation in weather preparedness.

The most noticeable updates to the plans were the following:

Updated Weather Shelter Areas: These areas are now labeled with signage. In addition, some shelter areas have been changed to interior spaces, ensuring the areas are capable of withstanding severe weather.

Lightning Procedures: Our weather response plan dictates that students will not be released for recess, field trips, activities or at the end of the day if we are experiencing lightning at our sites. The Building Principal will notify all staff and students if we are in a hold for lightning.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning Procedures: During a severe thunderstorm warning, students and staff will go to designated weather shelter areas. A severe thunderstorm is described as producing winds upwards of 90-100 miles per hour, so taking this precaution is important to protect students if there were to be damaging winds blowing against our buildings.

Please know that we will take every precaution available to ensure the safety of your student(s) as we take the trust you place in the District to keep your student(s) safe very seriously. If you should have any questions or concerns about these procedures, please contact your Building Principal.

If you would like to see further information on our local climate research or weather hazard plan, please click on the [following link - St Francis School Safety Website](#).

Sincerely,

Jonathan Mitchell
Director of Finance and Operations