



# Safety Matters

Talking Points for Rockingham Co Schools

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## Safety Takes Teamwork

Safety on the job site is something all employees should take seriously. Your family and the children or young adults in your care depend on you, and an occupational injury could cause serious stress for everyone.

Together, you and your co-workers can get your own safety program off the ground by giving your supervisors ideas on how things can be made safer. Any idea, no matter how small it may seem to you, may prevent a serious accident.

If you are a seasoned employee, you can use your years of valuable experience to spot potential safety hazards. Or, if you are a new employee, you may be able to spot something right away that an old pro may have overlooked.

Here are some examples of rules you can follow to set an example for others and help your safety program succeed.

- Do not engage, or allow students to engage, in horseplay in your classroom at any time – stay focused on the task at hand.
- Allow your co-workers to stay focused at all times by refraining from distractions that may take their attention away from safety.
- Watch your footing at all times, and never run to get where you are going. Enforce a no-running rule for pupils and classroom visitors as well.

- Remember that sanitation is key: keep yourself and your facility clean and free from clutter.
- Know your limits – step back and consider other options if you find yourself performing work that makes you uncomfortable or unsafe.
- Never perform work that you are unauthorized to do.
- Make your whereabouts known so you can be easily found or contacted in case of emergency.
- Know what to do in case of emergency, whether it's an on-the-job injury, inclement weather or other disaster.

In short, safety takes teamwork. Whatever your job is or whatever your duties include, keep your eyes open for hazards and report them. Help keep our safety program on solid ground!

**Keep yourself and your students out of harm's way by being an active safety program participant.**

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