



CREATING SAFE HAVENS

School Emergency Preparedness Planning

June 24, 2013



What Will We Cover Today?

1. Explain safe havens
2. Identify state and federal laws, rules, and resources on school emergency preparedness planning
3. Explore and chart the primary connection between federal, state, county, and local emergency management planning
4. Review cases associated with school emergency preparedness

What Is A Safe Haven?

“Our nation’s schools should be safe havens for teaching and learning, free of crime and violence.”

Source: Henry, Stuart. What is School Violence?: An Integrated Definition. The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. January 2000.

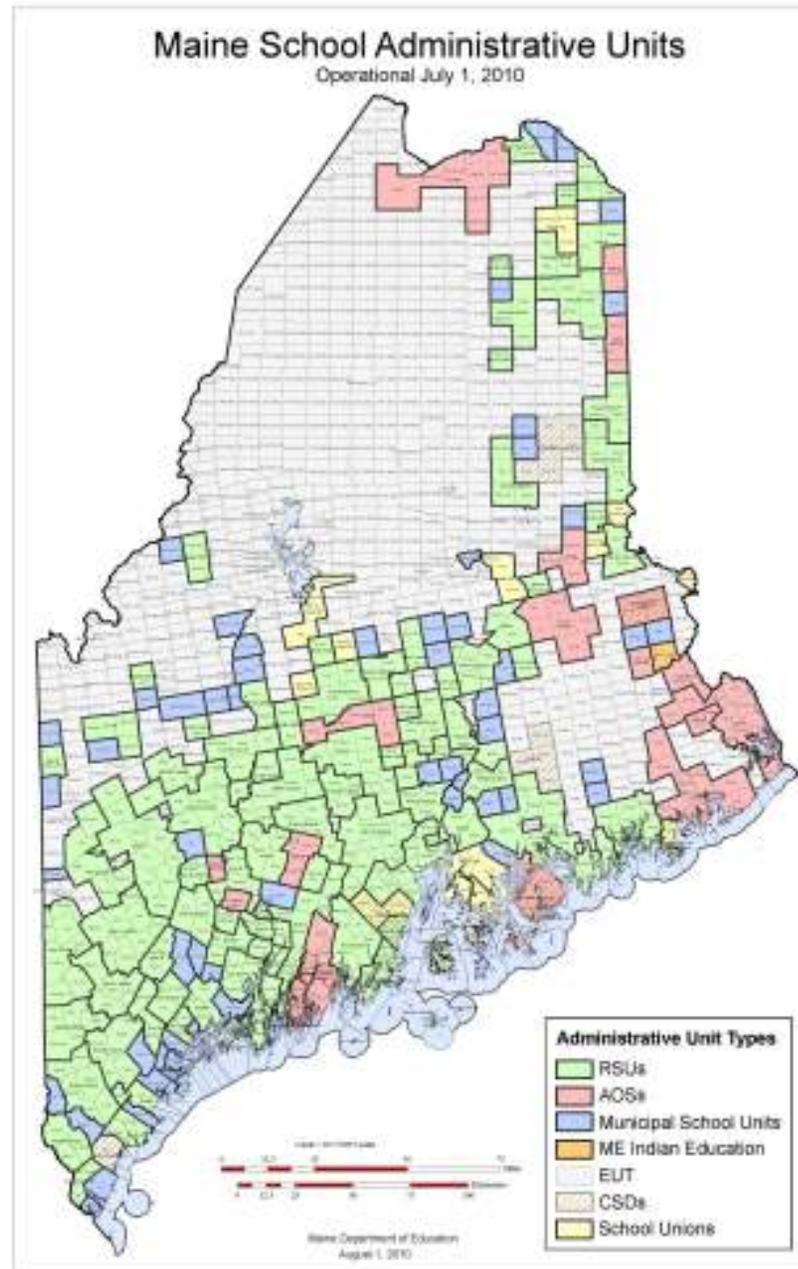
Why Is Safe Haven Important?

“Enhance the ability of teachers to teach and students to learn.”

What Type of Hazards Do Emergency Management Plans Cover? **All Hazards**

- 1. Natural
 - Weather, geologic, etc.
 - Damage to humans or the built environment
 - e.g., earthquake, flood, ice, snow
- 2. Technological
 - Events that involve materials created by humans
 - Infrastructure, chemical, mechanical failure, etc.
 - e.g., Bridge collapse, train derailment, plane crash, nuclear accident
- 3. Human Caused
 - Violent human act that is intentional or by accident
 - e.g., intruder, shooter, terrorism, cyber event

STATE



What Is The State Law and Rule?

- Maine Law – MRS Title 20-A Section 101.16
 - Duties of school boards
 - Comprehensive emergency management plan
- Maine Rule – 05-071 Chapter 125, Section 10.02-10.03
 - Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units, Emergency Procedures
 - Emergency evacuation drills
 - Safety procedures
- Maine DOE Strategic Plan 2012
 - Education Evolving: Maine’s Plan for Putting Learners First
 - Core priority 5: coordinated and effective state support

What Are Schools Required To Do?

- **Emergency Management Plan**
 - Updated annually
 - Developed with local first responders
 - Practiced evacuation drills
 - Copies delivered to local first responders
- Maintenance Plan
- Capital Plan
- Chemical Inventory
- School Facilities Inventory
- Bus Inventory
- Staff Report



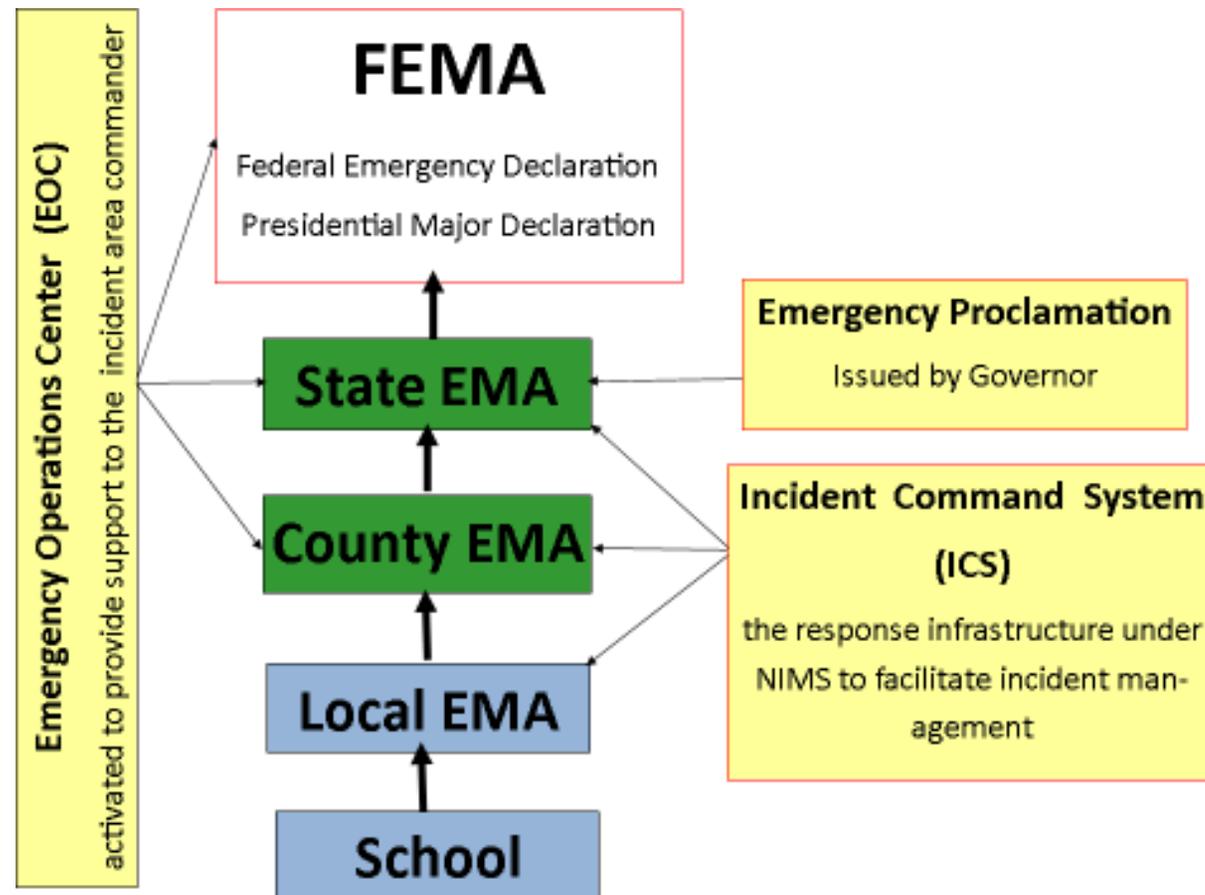
Where Do Schools Begin?

- Your school emergency management plan is the first step in creating safe havens
- Work with your County Emergency Management Agency
 - **Your first point of contact for school emergency management planning is your CEMA director**
 - 1. Call your CEMA director
 - 2. Schedule a meeting
 - 3. Prepare for the meeting by collecting your facilities data
 - Your CEMA will help you work with:
 - Law enforcement
 - Fire-fighting personnel
 - Hospitals
 - Mental health officials

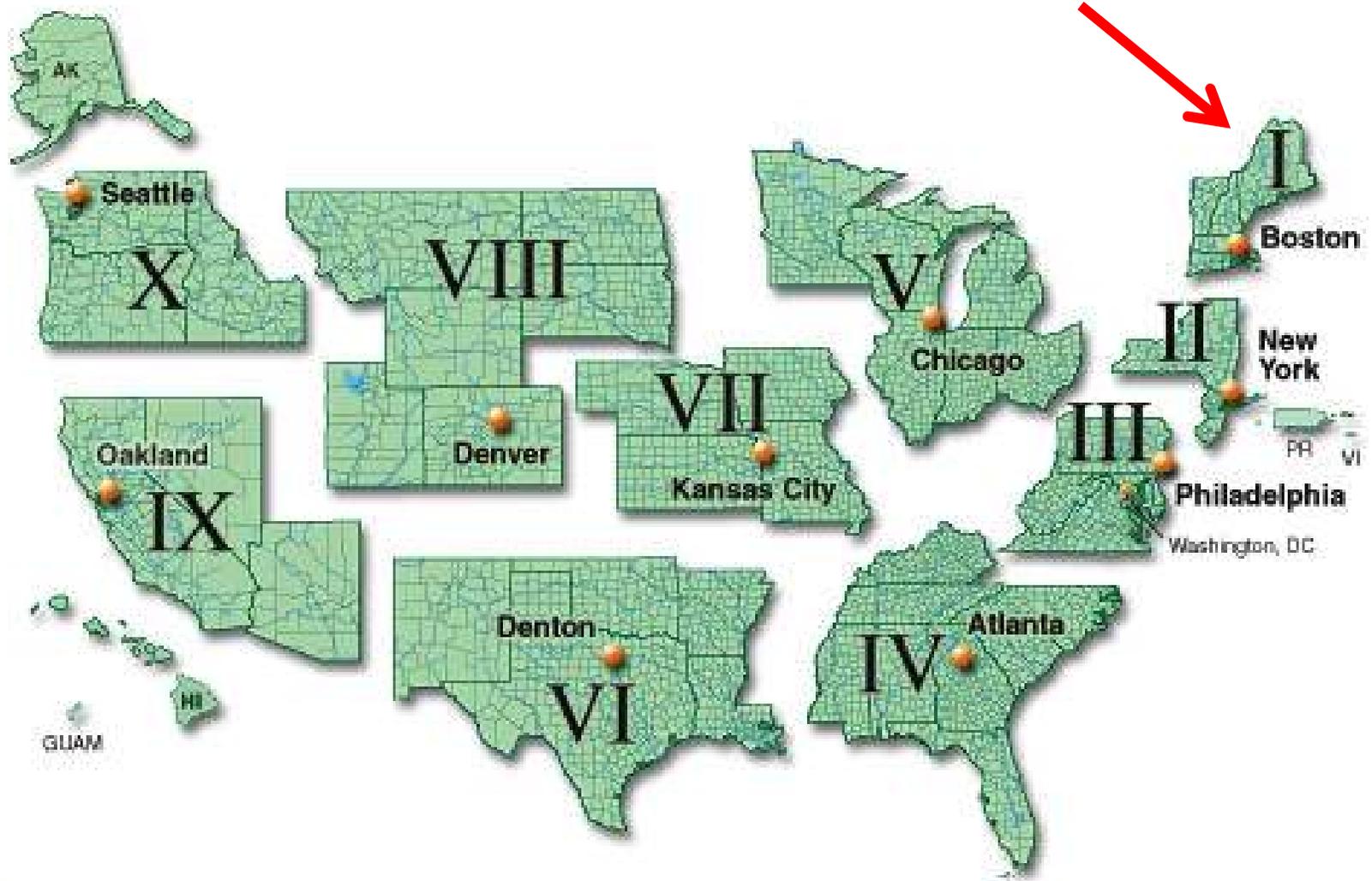
How Often Do You Update Your Plan?

- Review and update your school emergency management plan annually
 - Approved by school board
 - Lead by superintendent
 - Initiated by the facilities director
 - Use accurate, complete and timely (ACT) data
 - Include your County Emergency Management Agency (CEMA)
 - Include all teachers and staff in the review process
 - Include local first responders in the review process
 - Complete by August 15 each year (before school begins)
 - **Focus on quality over speed**

How Are Local, County, State and Federal Emergency Plans Connected?



FEDERAL



Federal Emergency Management Agency

- An agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Purpose:
 - to coordinate the response to a disaster that has occurred in the U.S. and that overwhelms the resources of local and state authorities.

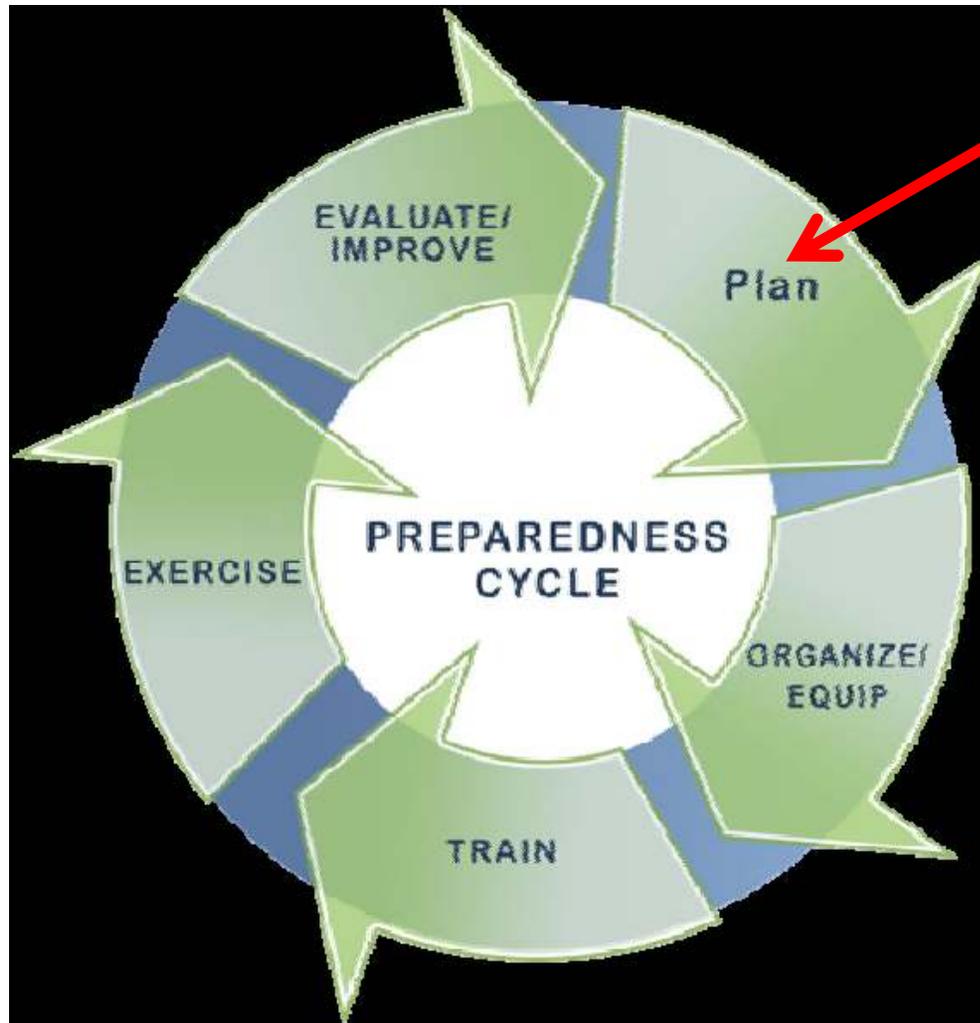
What Is The Federal Law?

“There are no federal laws requiring all school districts to have emergency management plans, most states and schools reported having requirements for such planning, and federal and state governments and school districts provide financial and other resources.”

What is the U.S. DOE View?

“Knowing how to respond quickly and efficiently in a crisis is critical to ensuring the safety of our schools and students. The midst of a crisis is not the time to start figuring out who ought to do what. At that moment, everyone involved – from top to bottom – should know the drill and know each other.”

The Preparedness Cycle



What Is The National Incident Management System (NIMS)?

- Comprehensive, nationwide systematic approach to incident management
- Core set of doctrine, concepts, principles, terminology and organizational processes for all hazards
- Scalable and applicable for all incidents

What Is The National Incident Command System (ICS)?

- A standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management approach
 - Developed after expert analysis of catastrophic fires in California
- Lessons learned reported weaknesses in incident management
 - Lack of accountability
 - Poor communication
 - Lack of planning process
 - Overloaded leaders including the Incident Commander
 - Lack of integration among responders
- ICS was developed to address the weaknesses

Lesson – Emergency Management ICS

- NIMS course: Introduction to the Incident Command System for Schools (IS-100.SCa)
 - Available online at no cost
- Course introduction
 - Experience the online course
 - 3 minutes

<http://emilms.fema.gov/IS100SCA/index.htm>

Why Use Plain Language?

- To avoid confusion and misinterpretation among different agencies
- To comply with Federal mandates for mutual aid events
 - Plain language is required for multi-agency, multi-discipline events, such as major disasters and exercises
- To ensure consistent, uniform training for public safety first responders

Case: Independence, MO

“In Independence, Mo., 10-33 was code for traffic backup. In 2005 an officer passed a state trooper who was laying 20 feet away in a ditch, barely alive, shot eight times. When the officer from Independence called dispatch to report what he’d found, this is how the dispatcher relayed that information to the State Highway Patrol: “They have a trooper in the ditch, they are ordering the ambulance, they are also trying to get Life Flight.” Instead of using code (e.g. 10-33, which to Missouri Highway Patrol meant traffic backup) dispatch switched to plain English and every state trooper for 50 miles came running. The officer lived, and the suspect was caught in less than an hour.”

Source: Office of Emergency Communications (OEC).
Plain Language FAQs. 2010

Most Common Planning Pitfall

“The development of lengthy, overly detailed plans that those responsible for their execution do not read.”

Federal Resources

- FEMA – Sample School Emergency Operations Plan, March 2011
 - <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/emischool/EL361Toolkit/assets/SamplePlan.pdf>
- FEMA – Guide For Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans, new June 18, 2013 
 - http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/rem_s_k-12_guide_508.pdf
- U.S. DOE – Practical Information on Crisis Planning: A Guide For Schools And Communities
 - <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/emergencyplan/crisisplanning.pdf>

FACILITIES LEADERSHIP



Maine School Facilities Data – FY10/11

| | | | |
|----|------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Students | Count: total | 188,133 |
| 2 | Buildings | Count: academic | 719 |
| 3 | Buildings | Gross Square Feet (GSF) | 34.8 M |
| 4 | Buildings | Age: 1-29 years | 37% |
| 5 | Buildings | Age: 30-99 years | 60% |
| 6 | Buildings | Age: 100+ years | 3% |
| 7 | Grounds | | TBD |
| 8 | Buses | Count: total | 2,810 |
| 9 | Buses | Age: < 7 years | 43% |
| 10 | Buses | Type: C | 74% |
| 11 | Buses | Fuel: diesel | 84% |

What Does A Safe Haven Look Like?

- **Facilities that create dignity, honor and respect in schools**
 - Safety oriented
 - Project a positive balanced perspective
- Evidence based and research proven concepts
 - When you connect people to the place crime goes down
 - Case: crime prevention through environmental design (territoriality)

Lesson – Facilities: Creating Safe Havens

- This lesson explores the role of building design and operations in creating safe school environments
 - Case: crime prevention through environmental design
 - Experience online training
 - 22 minutes

<http://www.safehavensinternational.org/resources/school-safety-web-courses/>

Summary

1. State law requires schools to approve, practice and deliver school Emergency Management (EM) Plans
2. There are no Federal laws requiring schools to have EM Plans
 - Federal guides provide the consistent structure for EM plans and procedures
3. Evidence based and research proven concepts help create safe havens and promote school safety
 - Environmental design facilities can prevent crime and improve emergency management
 - Facilities that send positive messages foster dignity, honor and respect in schools which ultimately leads to safe havens for students and staff



The story: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrHkKXFRbCI>

Source: British government, 1939, motivational poster