

## Other Safety Measures



### SCHOOL SECURITY

Five of our schools have School Resource Officers assigned to them. These are Phoenix Police officers that are funded through the state's school safety grant. In addition to providing lessons on good citizenship and law-related education, they provide on-site safety for all our students and staff.

### STUDENT IDENTIFICATION

In an effort to ensure only current students are entering campus in the morning, students may only enter through designated entrances that are monitored by staff. Students should wear their ID badge upon entering and throughout the school day.

### VISITOR RESTRICTIONS

All campus visitors, including parents/guardians must enter through their child's school office and obtain a visitor badge in exchange for their driver's license or other legal ID. This requires all visitors to check-in and out through the office and allows our school staff to know exactly who is on our campus at any given time.



While on campus, we ask you to only visit the areas you have indicated at check-in and to not prop open any doors or gates. Should a situation occur while on campus, visitors must follow all directions by school staff.

### MENTAL/ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Laveen is fortunate to have counseling and psychology support within our schools.

Counselors support a safe learning environment and work to safeguard the human rights of all members of the school community. Additionally, they address the needs of all students through culturally relevant prevention and intervention programs

Psychologists have expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior, and help children succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. School psychologists partner with families, teachers, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community.

### SAFETY COMMITTEES AND TRAINING

Laveen schools practice for a variety of emergencies multiple times a year. The procedures they follow were developed in partnership with law enforcement and crisis experts and are based on best practices in emergency response. School safety committees evaluate the success of every drill and practices are continuously reviewed and refined.



(above: Phoenix Police officers were trained on handling school emergencies using Laveen facilities outside of school hours).

# School Safety & Security

The safety of our students and staff has been and continues to be Laveen's top priority. We, as educators and families, must work in partnership to ensure the safety of every member of our school community.



Laveen  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

[www.LaveenSchools.org/school-safety](http://www.LaveenSchools.org/school-safety)

# Locking Down a School

Laveen's highest priority is the safety of its students and staff.

All Laveen schools routinely conduct lockdown drills to practice for situations in which students and staff should stay behind locked doors for safety reasons.

Staff has worked closely with Phoenix Police and crisis planning experts to develop best practices for handling emergency situations. The goal of locking a school down is to keep our students out of sight and earshot and contain them behind a locked barrier(s).

When a school goes into lockdown the school will:

1. Secure all rooms/ buildings
2. Ensure students are out of sight and silent
3. Account for all persons
4. Communicate pertinent information to families over the course of the incident

On rare occasions, a school has gone into an actual lockdown. Most often these occur due to active police investigations occurring in close proximity to a school. Lockdowns typically last less than 20 minutes.

## SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Did you know that most individuals wanting to inflict harm on a school often tell someone or post their intentions to social media?

It is important that if you or your child becomes aware of a potential threat it is reported to law enforcement or the school immediately. **This should be reported via a direct phone call.** Do not email, private message, or tag a school or police in regards to a potential threat as this may go unnoticed.



## LOCKDOWN SCENARIOS

Laveen schools practice for two different types of lockdown – for on-campus and off-campus situations.

The first is in response to a threat on campus, such as a campus intruder or a member of the school community who is at risk of harming themselves or others. In a typical “hard” lockdown teachers will lock their classroom doors, sweeping in any students who are just outside their classroom; students will be asked to move to a safe location within the room and will remain silent until the situation has been resolved.

If the threat is outside the school campus, for example if police are responding to a situation within the neighborhood, the school will transition into a “soft” lockdown. Building doors will remain locked and no outside visitors will be permitted inside. However, teaching may continue and students may move freely throughout their locked building.

Schools will typically go into a hard lockdown first to ensure all students have been swept to a safe area before transitioning to a soft lockdown.

## ADVICE FOR YOUR CHILD

Knowing what to do before an emergency occurs gives children the power to act in a real situation. Families are encouraged to discuss these few steps with their child (ren).



do not open the door for anyone. Police and staff will have keys and can open any door if necessary.

- When a lockdown is called, immediately move to the safest area— which may not be your classroom
- Do not use your phone. All your attention should be directed to staying safe, out of view, and silent.
- Follow directions of school staff/ emergency responders
- If you are locked within a room,

# Lockdown Guidance for Parents

For our crisis response plan to be effective we depend on you, as parents, to support our crisis response efforts. Your cooperation is vital to helping us protect the safety and welfare of all our students and school employees. Therefore, we ask parents to observe the following procedures related to drills and actual school crises:

**Do not call your child:** In a lockdown our goal is to keep all students from being seen or heard. Calling your child during an emergency may reveal their location. Students will be given an opportunity to text their parents, once their location is secure.

**Do not call the school:** Parents will be notified via text message of a lockdown event (please make sure your child's school has your current cell phone number on file). The school is unable to answer phones during a lockdown as the telephone system must be available for emergency communications. Additionally, all staff members are working to secure the school and care for the students. Once the school is secure and information is verified, a text and email message will be sent to families. In the event that the situation is resolved before communication can be sent, parents will still receive notification.

**Do not come to the school:** Once in lockdown, school staff is unable to open the doors for anyone, including parents. Persons gathering outside a school put themselves at risk, and can delay the emergency response, while police work to apprehend a suspect. Driving to a school during a lockdown can create a traffic jam preventing first responders from reaching the school in a timely manner. In a true emergency situation, students will be relocated to an alternate site for parent reunification.

**Check district homepage:** An alert message will be posted on the front of the district web page, [www.laveenschools.org](http://www.laveenschools.org), along with details and instructions. Text and email messages will also be sent via our auto-dialer system.

