

School Emergency Communications

Many schools are taking a closer look at their emergency communication systems. Sirens, text alerts, new lockdown procedures, and other ideas are being examined carefully. There is no single solution to the potential threats of an armed intruder or bomb, and what works today might need to be improved upon next year. Here are a few suggestions to consider:

- It's best to have at least two forms of emergency communication.
- You should be able to quickly activate your communication systems.
- Students and faculty should know what to do when a siren sounds.
- Ideally, your system would inform students and faculty of the threat's exact location or provide updates.
- More than one person should have the authority to activate your system.
- Consider drafting several general script text messages that would require only a few revisions before being sent. Time could be a critical factor.

If you have a safety or risk management question or a suggestion for a topic, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at safety1st@markelcorp.com.