



FEMA

Lessons Learned  
Information Sharing  
LLIS.gov

Sharing Information  
Enhancing Preparedness  
Strengthening Homeland Security

---

## LESSON LEARNED

---

### School Emergency Management Planning: Establishing Standardized Lockdown Procedures within School Districts

#### SUMMARY

School districts should coordinate with local law enforcement agencies to establish consistent lockdown procedures to be employed by all of their schools.

#### DESCRIPTION

On October 11, 2008, the Hood River County, Oregon, Division of Emergency Services sponsored the Hood River Sheriff's Department Active Shooter Drill. The drill scenario simulated an active shooter situation with an unknown number of gunmen at Hood River Valley High School (HRVS). Law enforcement officers and emergency medical service personnel responded following a 9-1-1 call from HRVS reporting shots fired. The drill tested Hood River County's Active Shooter Response Policy and assessed the public safety and security response capability for an active shooter in a local school. The drill also assessed communication procedures among a police response team, the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center, and HRVS. Sixty-three participants from ten state and local agencies participated in the drill.

The Hood River County School District contains 9 schools and approximately 3,900 students.

Drill participants identified inconsistencies in the lockdown procedures employed by schools in the Hood River School District. Participants observed that the absence of standardized lockdown procedures would prevent law enforcement officers from employing their active shooter protocols effectively. The Hood River Sheriff's Department Active Shooter Drill after-action report recommends that school districts work with local law enforcement officers to develop standardized lockdown procedures. These procedures should detail processes for securing the building following a lockdown while the school waits for law enforcement assistance to arrive. Drill evaluators also recommended that the Hood River School District conduct lockdown drills to test their emergency plans.

School districts should coordinate with local law enforcement agencies to establish consistent lockdown procedures to be employed by all of their schools.

#### CITATION

Hood River County Department of Emergency Management. *Hood River Sheriff's Department Active Shooter Drill*. 1 Nov 2008.

<https://www.llis.dhs.gov/docdetails/details.do?contentID=34666>

#### DISCLAIMER

*Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS.gov)* is the US Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency's national online network of lessons learned, best practices, and innovative ideas for the emergency response and homeland security communities. The Web site and its contents are provided for informational purposes only, without warranty or guarantee of any kind, and do not represent the official positions of the US Department of Homeland Security. For more information on *LLIS.gov*, please email [feedback@llis.dhs.gov](mailto:feedback@llis.dhs.gov) or visit [www.llis.gov](http://www.llis.gov).