HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SCENARIO

The second Thursday of November is a big day at _______________ School. This year marks the third annual Turkey Trot Race. The fun-filled day of student and parent activities includes a ½-mile run for each class. Parent and teacher events are also scheduled.

It is a perfect day for the festivities, with clear skies, moderate temperatures, and winds from the southwest at 3 miles per hour.

At 11:30 a.m., first-grade students, together with 15 parents and 10 teachers, have returned to the cafeteria for lunch. The kindergarten class, along with 25 parents and 10 teachers, have just arrived in the race area, which is located _______________ of the third grade classrooms and _____________ of the basketball courts. At 11:40 a.m., one of the teachers at the race area notifies the principal that a strong ammonia odor is present and that she has heard police or fire sirens in the vicinity. The parents and other teachers present are quite concerned.

Scenario Questions

1. Based on the information available at this time, what are your immediate concerns?

2. What initial actions should you take?

3. What should you do next?
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SCENARIO (CONTINUED)

4. Draw your initial ICS organization in the space below, including personnel assigned to each position (by title), in the space below.

5. For what contingencies should you plan?
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SCENARIO UPDATE #1

[ Distribute this handout 20 minutes into the exercise! ]

The principal has ordered that everyone at the race event report to the cafeteria and remain there until the situation is resolved. As the children head back to the school, several start pushing and shoving in their rush to “get away from the smell.” One little girl has fallen and banged her head on the sidewalk. A parent has carried her to the nurse’s office, but she is bleeding heavily from a laceration just above her right eye.

The school nurse has sent a parent to report that five students and two parents have come to her office complaining of difficulty breathing. One of the students is asthmatic but the nurse does not know whether or not to allow the student to use his inhaler.

Update #1 Questions:

1. What actions should you take based on this new information?

2. Draw your current ICS organization in the space below.
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SCENARIO UPDATE #1 (CONTINUED)

3. How will you notify parents? What will you tell them?

4. For what contingencies should you plan?
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SCENARIO UPDATE #2

[Distribute this handout 35 minutes into the exercise!]

It is 11:45 a.m. A fire department official has called the school to notify the principal of an
anhydrous ammonia leak at an adjacent warehouse immediately south of the school. The fire
department recommends an immediate evacuation of the school and surrounding
neighborhoods and instructs the principal to evacuate from the parking lot at the southeast
corner of the school facility.

Teachers at the cafeteria report that parents indicate that they want to leave immediately and
take their children with them. Parents’ vehicles are parked on the streets surrounding the
school and in the school parking lot.

Update #2 Questions:

1. What actions should school personnel take based on the directions received from the fire
department?

2. How many buses are required to accomplish a complete evacuation? How long will it take
them to arrive? What is your estimated time requirement for completing the evacuation?

3. Will you need to make additional ICS assignments to accomplish the evacuation? If so,
draw your new organization below.
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SCENARIO UPDATE #2 (CONTINUED)

4. What will you tell the parents who want to take their children and leave?

5. For what contingencies must you plan?
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SCENARIO UPDATE #3

[Distribute this handout 60 minutes into the exercise!]

As evacuation efforts are being coordinated, 20 additional children complain of feeling sick. The teachers are voicing their reluctance to permit the children to leave the school. They feel it is much safer to stay inside.

One parent who has decided to leave wants to take other children who live in the same neighborhood.

Update #3 Questions:

1. What should you do about the children who are feeling sick?

2. What should you do about the parent who wants to take additional children home?

3. How will you ensure that the entire school facility is evacuated and that everyone (including students, parents, and staff) is accounted for?