



# Shake Out Drill Information

## October 15, 2020

On Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 2:00 PM, our school district will participate in the Great Southern California Shake Out, a statewide earthquake drill. This drill is designed to help schools and other agencies prepare for an earthquake. During the drill, we will use our intercom to tell staff and students on site that we are having a “pretend” earthquake. Everyone will drop to the ground, take cover under a table or desk, and hold on, along with millions of Californians. The Shake Out simulates a magnitude 7.2 shake or higher (which is very powerful). Though we practice fire and emergency drills, this is our chance to work with the district and city to better coordinate our disaster procedures.

Earthquake preparedness is a responsibility of all Southern Californians and we encourage you to also discuss earthquake readiness with your child and others at home, to take steps to get prepared, and to participate in the ShakeOut. Here are some parent suggestions:

1. Have your children practice at home to **Drop, Cover and Hold On**. It is suggested that you practice for at least 60 seconds to reinforce that earthquakes often shake for a relatively long time.
2. While on the ground during the practice drill, look around and imagine what would happen in a big earthquake, when shaking may last for 1-2 minutes. What would fall on you or others? What would be damaged? What can you do now to reduce losses?
3. Talk with children about what to do if they are not in the classroom or at home. Discuss with them that it could happen in the mall, at a movie, or while outside playing. They need to know to take cover in any situation.
4. After a real earthquake, parents will naturally come to school to pick up their children. The school will be very busy making certain that all children, parents, and staff are accounted for. We will be asking parents to wait outside the school playground (line up along the wall that is between the school and the HOA park). Be certain to have a **picture I.D.** so we can properly identify people picking up children. **When you pick up children, we will ask you to sign your child’s emergency card and write the time and the destination you are going to after you get your child.** This is done so we can let other family members know your location if they too try to pick up your child.
5. When we release a student we will place a green mark on their hand so we know that the child has been cleared to leave. This is so we have a quick way to see that parents have properly followed our check out.
6. Always be aware of the need to update your child’s emergency card. If you change jobs, get a new phone or number, want someone added or removed from the emergency card, or any other changes---- come to the school office to update your child’s emergency card.
7. Consider doing a “hazard hunt” for items that might fall during earthquakes and secure them.
8. Create a personal or family disaster preparedness plan.
9. Organize or refresh you emergency supply kits. Be sure to store at least one gallon of water per person, per day, for at least 3 days and ideally for 2 weeks.
10. Identify and correct any issues in your home’s structure.
11. Consider enrolling in a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to learn more about how to take care of yourself and your family when you are “on your own” after a disaster.

### **Earthquake Preparedness Websites**

<http://www.shakeout.org>

<http://www.earthquakecountry.org>

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Principal