

PREPARING FOR SUMMER

With summer comes unique activities and exposures for schools. It is important that staff is prepared to handle extra work loads and possible emergencies with limited numbers and resources present. Proper preparedness and training can reduce the chances of accidents and injuries during the summer months.

3 Key Areas for Summer Safety

High Heat Conditions

Experts are predicting temperatures well above normal for SoCal. Make sure to address the dangers of high heat conditions. Whether you are a custodial, maintenance, groundskeepers, IT, PE staff member or coach, or anyone who may be working outside remember:

- Where to access water and shade; be sure to rehydrate frequently.
- To check weather monitoring systems
- To have proper acclimatization periods
- To participate in training
- To review written procedures, including emergency response



Think Safety

A few safety topics to review:

- Back safety awareness prior to summer cleaning projects where moving desks, cabinets, boxes, and bookcases are necessary.
- Slip, trip, and fall hazards when stripping and sealing tile floors.
- Ladder safety training should you be accessing roofs or overhead storage and maintenance.
- Mosquito and bee safety – eliminate standing water and be aware of increased pest activity
 - Update on West Nile virus
 - Update in Zika virus
 - Africanized Honey Bee safety

Maintenance & Custodial Activities

- Summer is a good time for playground maintenance. With no students present, worn out parts can be replaced and surfacing issues and general equipment maintenance can be conducted with less hassle.
- Be prepared for freak summer thunderstorms that may cause local flooding or power outages.
- Headphone use is a distraction that limits awareness. Having a radio or speaker at a reasonable volume is safer and easier to hear calls for help or assistance.

