

USE OF SCHOOL STORM SHELTER

The Valliant Public School District owns and maintains Tornado Storm Shelters on campus. These Storm Shelters were built on school property primarily for the safety and protection of the schools children and the faculty in the event of a tornado during normal school hours. As a courtesy and out of concern for the citizens of the City of Valliant, the Valliant Public School District made a decision to allow the use of these shelters by the citizens, or passersby caught unaware and without suitable shelter. The Valliant Public School District sets rules and guidelines for the use of these storm shelters. During school hours a school administrator will be responsible for managing the shelter. In the absence of school administrative personnel outside of normal school hours, City of Valliant personnel will be responsible for management of the shelters.

The school has three shelters for use during weather emergencies:

1. High School Storm Shelter-This is the primary shelter for public use and will be opened first by the City of Valliant. It is oriented so that there is easy access from the Auditorium and Football Field. This shelter has the most easily accessible parking for the general public. It is located at 502 East Lucas Street.
2. Middle School Storm Shelter-This shelter is adjacent to the Middle School and to the Cafeteria. It provides a connection between those two buildings. It is the most convenient shelter for use for public events and meetings and is divisible into 3 separate rooms. It is located at 403 East Mosley Street. Parking is extremely limited.
3. Elementary Storm Shelter-This shelter house the Elementary Library. It is closest to the Mattie Terry Complex and would be the suggest Shelter for use during events at that facility. Some parking is available at the site. The Shelter is located at 302 East Lucas Street. Additional parking is available at the Mattie Terry Complex.

Shelter Rules

- A. All Shelters will be available for occupancy by the public during school hours. However, students and staff have priority for Shelter occupancy. The community will only be admitted after all the students have been sheltered.
- B. Weather can be unpredictable so the standing rule is that the shelters will be opened upon the issuance of a warning by the National Weather Service, however, in some instance observation or storm spotter reports may warrant opening the shelters. Where the threat of severe and damaging weather is predicted and is imminent, the shelters may be opened in advance of the official storm warnings. As the Primary Shelter, the High School shelter will be the first shelter opened.
- C. The shelters will stay open so long as there are current warnings or incoming warning issued by the National Weather Service.
- D. Pets are not allowed in the shelter unless they are confined in an owner provided an airline approved carrier.
- E. Food and drink are not permitted in the shelter. Water fountains are available and ADA accessible restrooms are available in each shelter.
- F. Smoking or the use of tobacco in any form is prohibited in the shelters and on all school property in accordance with Oklahoma law.
- G. Radios or music devices may be used only with individual earphones.
- H. Shelter doors must remain closed at all times.