



**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REFERENCE GUIDE**

TITLE: NOAA Public Alert Radios

NUMBER: REF-2131.0

ISSUER: Office of Environmental Health and Safety

DATE: November 2, 2005

<p>ROUTING Local District Superintendents Local District School Support Directors Local District Operations Coordinators Principals Non-School Site Administrators</p>
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PURPOSE: The purpose of this Reference Guide is to provide information about the radios being distributed to schools by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). These radios are known as “NOAA Public Alert Radios,” which are designed to provide alerts for a wide range of emergencies including telephone outages, weather-related warnings, hazardous materials spills and Amber Alerts. Alerts can also be generated by federal or state events, such a change in the national threat level.

MAJOR CHANGES: Not applicable.

INSTRUCTIONS Administrators are to place the radio in the Main Office or other central location where it can be monitored by designated staff. Follow the directions that come with the radio on how to set up the radio for your particular location. On-line directions and assistance for setting up the radio can be found at: <http://public-alert-radio.nws.noaa.gov>. Additional help with setting up the radio can be obtained from volunteers at your local Citizen Corps, which can be found at: www.citizencorps.gov.

The radio will activate and provide a warning for many types of emergencies. For weather-related emergencies, such as flash floods or tornados, schools should note that there are two lights on the radio, one for “watch” and one for “warning.” The “watch” alert reminds schools to remain vigilant for the possibility of an event and a “warning” means that the event is occurring. In the event of an emergency, schools are to follow the directions in the *Safe School Plan, Volume 2 - Emergency Procedures* and consult their local district for additional guidance and support.

NOAA is asking schools to acknowledge receipt of the radio by registering it at: <http://public-alert-radio.nws.noaa.gov/register>.



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RELATED

RESOURCES:

The NOAA web site at: <http://public-alert-radio.nws.noaa.gov> has additional information and support for schools.

ASSISTANCE:

For assistance or further information, please contact Bob Spears, Director of Emergency Services at: (213) 241-3889 or via e-mail at: bob.spears@lausd.net.