

As some of you may know, our schools will be participating in Tornado Preparedness Day next week. James Bailey has done some research on the Virginia Emergency Management and FEMA websites to provide us with some safety tips for our building should a tornado be sighted in our area.

### Safety Tips

1. Staff members should go to a windowless interior room such as a closet, bathroom, stairwells or interior hall on the lowest level of the building. Employees should evacuate as quickly as possible once a tornado warning has been issued for this immediate area. Once people reach safe areas they should crouch as low as possible to the floor, facing down, and cover their heads with their hands, to protect from any possible flying debris. Employees should not attempt to use the elevators while evacuating, due to the fact that electricity will most likely be interrupted.
2. If a tornado spawns quickly, and employees do not have enough time to evacuate to lower levels of the building, they should attempt to get under a piece of sturdy furniture such as a workbench or heavy table or desk and hold on to it.
3. We also need to make sure in any emergency event that we work to ensure the safety of any employees and visitors that may have disabilities. Each department should ensure that they have plans in place to assist the disabled in evacuating to a safe location.

It is important that all the departments that have emergency weather radios at SAC continue to inspect them to make sure that they are plugged in and/or have charged batteries to make sure that they are operational.

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