

FRESNO COUNTY SELF INSURANCE GROUP LIABILITY/PROPERTY DAMAGE AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION

FALL 2016

AB 1432 and Mandated Reporter Reminders

AB 1432 requires a school district to train all employees within 6 weeks of the start of the school year. The start of the school year is defined as the first date staff reports to work or the date students are on campus.

Training ALL employees means training those employees who work around children. Mandated reporter training includes information on how to recognize and report suspected child abuse and neglect. While not all employees are legally a mandated reporter, there is no harm in educating all school personnel.

GET SAFETY TRAINED

OSS offers a fully compliant course through the online Get Safety Trained program. The course "Mandated Child Abuse Reporting for Educators" can be accessed via www.getsafetytrained.com. Please use the instructions below to register new users and sign in after you have registered as a new user. For more information on AB 1432, the OSS course, or for assistance on compliance, contact your OSS Risk Manager.

New User Registration

- 1. For first time registration, go to: www.getsafetytrained.com
- 2. Select the blue letters that say, "Are you a New User?" in the <u>User Sign in Box</u>.
- 3. Select the <u>first letter of your School</u> <u>District</u> from the drop down list and then click <u>Continue</u>.
- 4. Select your School District and click Submit.
- 5. Complete the registration form with name, job title, etc., and click <u>Agree</u>.
- 6. You will then be directed to your personal training page.

New Face in Risk Management

As many of you know, Dr. Henry Brock has retired from OSS & FCSIG as of October 31, 2016. Dr. Brock has been the JPA's Risk Manager for the past 14 years and has been involved with FCSIG since 1983 and OSS since 1988. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation for all his professional expertise and commitment to the organizations. We wish him the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

We are pleased to introduce Amy Dolson, the new full time OSS & FCSIG Risk Manager. Amy has worked with the two JPAs and Dr. Brock since September 2014 as a Risk

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User Sign-in

(after you have registered as a new user)

- 1. Go to **www.getsafetytrained.com** to <u>User Sign in Box</u>
- 2. Enter the email address you used to register.
- 3. Enter your password.
- Select the <u>first letter of your School</u> <u>District</u> from the drop down list and then click <u>Sign in</u>.
- 5. Select your School District and click <u>Submit</u>.
- 6. You will be directed to your personal training page.

From your personal training page, you may edit your personal information, take an online training course, view available, required, completed or past-due courses, and print your certificates.

IN THIS ISSUE





SCHOOL TRAFFIC SAFETY PLANS Best Practices For Safe Drop-Offs and Pick-Ups

Traffic activity due to student drop off and pick up at school sites has increased in recent years as a result of greater percentages of students being driven to school. This is largely due to concerns regarding security and safety and decreases in school busing programs. Many existing schools were designed in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s when most children were expected to walk and bike to school or to be transported by a school funded busing program. The drop-off and pick-up zones at these older schools are not adequately designed to serve current drop-off and pick-up demand.

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety's most recent study shows that as many as two thirds of drivers speed in school zones and that more than one third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods. The afternoon hours are particularly dangerous. Over the last decade, nearly one in four child pedestrian fatalities occurred between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. The School Safety Patrol Program developed by AAA helps promote traffic safety awareness and safer environments for pedestrians, students, and motorists through student involvement and peer-to-peer communication. It develops positive collaboration between students, parents, schools, community, and law enforcement.

More information on the School Safety Patrol Program can be found at http://schoolsafetypatrol.aaa.com

By organizing a safe and efficient student pick-up/drop-off plan, conditions can be made safer for students while improving overall traffic conditions around the school. However, many schools do not have the experience or knowledge readily available to make these changes on their own.

Numerous tools can be used to improve the safety and efficiency of the drop-off and pick-up process at schools including:

- Encouraging walking, bicycling, and carpooling
- Curb striping and other pavement markings

New Face: Continued from page 1

Management Consultant. Amy assisted with developing the Injury & Illness Prevention Program and the Claims Analysis reports for each of the member districts. She also helped update the OSS & FCSIG strategic plans and has provided support in the evaluation of loss exposures, playground inspections and safety training.

Amy has over 15 years of experience in compliance program development, training, Cal-OSHA compliance, claims analysis, and implementing safety, health, and emergency management programs. She holds the Associate in Risk Management for Public Entities (ARM-P), Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI), Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS), Certified Ergonomic Assessment Specialist (CEAS), and Associate Business Continuity Professional (ABCP) designations. Amy is a past President and current Membership Chair of the Valley Coastal Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental and Occupational Health from California State University, Northridge.

Please contact Amy with all Risk Management questions and requests. Below is Amy's contact information:



Amy Dolson OSS & FCSIG Risk Manager adolson@pomsassoc.com Office: 818-449-9300 Cell: 805-208-0970

Amy Dolson

- Signage
- Separating motor vehicles from pedestrians and bicyclists
- Adding a drop-off and pick-up lane
- Assistants/patrols to help students exit and enter motor vehicles
- Education, including maps and frequent reminders using school announcements and newsletters
- Monitoring and enforcement of drop-off and pick-up policies

Further information on these tools can be found at the following Safe Routes to School websites:

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School Traffic Safety: Continued from page 2

http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/program-tools/improving-schooldrop-and-pick-zones

http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/dropoff_pickup/index.cfm

OSS' Risk Management also offers traffic assessments to assist our member school districts in identifying and addressing school traffic safety issues. If you are interested in a traffic assessment, contact the JPA Risk Manager at: adolson@pomsassoc.com.

Field Trips and Education Code 35330

As the school bells once again begin to ring in school districts across the country, students enter a new school year with an excitement about what lies ahead. Parents, in many cases, are just as, if not more nervous than the children with plenty of questions directed toward your office staff.

Many of those questions, especially those with children in the lower grades, will relate to the safety of their child. This is because they most likely haven't experienced the district's policies and procedures and are venturing into a new situation just as their child is. One of the most precautionary inducing events for any parent are school field trips. These days, a simple bus ride is no longer taken for granted as being completely secure and it's important that policies are in place to not only alleviate the concerns of the parents, but also reduce the liability exposure for the school district.

It is for this imperative reason that your district staff be familiar with California Education Code 35330. Essentially, Education Code 35330 concludes that all persons making a voluntary field trip/excursion are deemed to have waived all liability claims against the district.

Parents will expect some sort of permission slip that will need to be signed in order for their child to participate in the field trip. This is the best opportunity to inform parents of this education code. Ideally, a separate form for each activity would be signed, although one signed form the school year would also suffice as long as each activity is listed.

Ensure that your district's standard permission slip clearly states that the participation in the activity is voluntary and not required by the district, and cite the liability immunity in Education Code Section 35330.



FORKLIFT SAFETY

Taking proper precautions, providing regular forklift maintenance, implementing proper safety procedures, and conducting required training will reduce the chance for injury to staff and the public and reduce property and equipment damage.

According to the Industrial Truck Association, there are more than 850,000 forklifts (powered industrial trucks) in the United States.

Providing forklift safety training is to ensure that district employees who are authorized to operate powered industrial trucks are competent to do so in the safest manner possible. It is also a requirement of Cal/OSHA regulations, Title 8, Section 3664.

The training shall be a combination of formal lecture, practical training, and operator evaluation in the workplace. The practical training must be on the equipment the employee's use at the location.

TRAINING MUST INCLUDE:

- Regulations Federal, state, and district policy
- Types of Trucks Electric, internal combustion
- Parts of the Truck From forks to counterweight
- Pre-Shift Inspection Including checklist template
- Lift Truck Safety Stability, center of gravity, load types

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"Every year over 95,000 people are injured in forklift accidents. More than 40% of fatalities are due to the forklift rolling or toppling on top of the operator or other worker."

Forklift Safety: Continued from page 3

- Safe Operation Best practices for transporting loads
- Fuel Types Charging and refueling
- Documentation License and certificate of completion provided

Re-evaluate employees every three years, unless an unsafe behavior is observed or there is an accident or near miss, the employee is assigned a different truck, or the forklift is being operated in areas or conditions for which they have not been certified.

Most property damage caused by forklifts includes the following:

- Lack of training
- Lack of enforcement of safety rules
- Failure to follow safe forklift operating procedures
- Speed or stress
- Lack of proper tools, attachments, or accessories
- Poor maintenance of forklifts
- Age of forklift

Improper load handling creates hazards to operators, those nearby, and property. Off-center loads, overloading, broken or faulty pallets, load blocking operator view, and damaged or loose loads can all cause tip overs and/or falling loads. Forklifts can cause astounding amounts of damage to warehouse product, doors, and walls due to improper operation. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) reported that "80% of forklift repair and maintenance costs are due to operator abuse of equipment."

Common types of property damage include:

- Products and materials
- Warehouse racks
- Broken pallet boards
- Doors
- Poles
- Protection barriers
- The forklift itself

Forklift Operator Workshops

8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

(Late arrivals greater than 10 minutes will not be allowed to take the course.)

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

Kingsburg Joint Union High School Location TBD

OR

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 Selma Unified School District 3036 Thompson Ave, Selma, CA

RSVP to: safety@fidelitysafety.com at least two weeks prior to course. Number of participants is limited.

Liability/Property Damage and Workers' Compensation Newsletter www.ossweb.org | www.fcsigweb.org

> Bill Tucker, JPA Manager billt@ocsnet.net