## **EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO**

School is located	In addition to
the principal, the school has faculty members, full-time counselors, a nu	
secretaries, cafeteria workers, and custodians. On any given day, volunteers are also in the building.	parent
This morning at 9:45 a.m., your community was struck by a severe earthquake. has caused extensive damage to a large part of the community. All utilities are a currently lit by emergency lighting only. The area around the school office approximation only minor damage. Damage to the remainder of the building is under but one custodian has radioed that has collapsed.	out. The school pears to have
You know from experience to expect multiple aftershocks, some of which may be also know from attending meetings with local officials that, in the event of a sever could take up to 2 days before first responders reach the school. You must organize yourselves and protect the students.	ere quake, it

## **Scenario Questions:**

1. Draw your initial emergency organization, including personnel assigned to each position (by title), in the space below.

	EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO (CONTINUED)		
2.	Where will you establish your Command Post for this incident?		
3.	After establishing command, what will you do first? Why?		
4.	What is your first concern in this situation?		
5.	For what contingencies must you plan?		

#### **EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO UPDATE #1**

#### [Distribute this update 20 minutes into the exercise!]

The area has experienced several aftershocks of moderate intensity. The aftershocks have caused additional collapse in the gymnasium area.

Those who could evacuate the building have assembled in the designated area, and student accountability procedures are underway. The gymnasium has collapsed, and a class that was in the gymnasium at the time has not evacuated. There has been no communication with either the students or their teacher as of this point.

Several students were injured when they were struck by falling debris. One teacher was struck by flying glass and is seriously injured. A custodian has suffered what appears to be a heart attack. Several students who are asthmatic are reporting difficulty breathing, and the school nurse left the building without taking student medications. These injuries and illnesses are overwhelming the staff members who are assigned to the Medical Group.

There are no reports of fires as of yet.

The phone system is out because of the electricity interruption. You can see that a water main two blocks from the school has ruptured. Damage to the community that is visible from the campus looks severe.

#### **Update #1 Questions:**

1. How does this new information change your planning?

	EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO UPDATE #1 (CONTINUED)
2.	Where will you locate the medical area?
3.	How will you communicate with first responders and others who need information about your situation?
4.	Given your current staffing, the amount of known damage, and your knowledge of your school and school plan, for what contingencies must you plan?
5.	How does your school plan address provision for:
	• Food?
	■ Blankets?
	■ Items to occupy the students?

#### **EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO UPDATE #2**

#### [Distribute this handout 35 minutes into the exercise!]

It is getting late in the day, and aftershocks are continuing. A few parents have arrived but because of the obvious damage in some areas of the community, it is becoming apparent that at least some students will have to spend the night.

An aftershock has caused further collapse of the building, including the area designated as the pickup point for parent/student reunification. A few parents have arrived and are unsure about what to do. One of the parent's children is trapped in the gymnasium collapse.

The custodian has died as has one of the asthmatic students. The teacher who was injured is unconscious and has only a faint pulse. Also, there is still no word on the students and teacher who are in the collapsed gymnasium. Friends of the trapped students are crying.

The aftershocks have caused panic among the special education students who are not entirely aware of everything that is going on and why. Their teacher has sent an aide to the Command Post asking for assistance—quickly.

You have contacted the 9-1-1 dispatcher but all response personnel are currently deployed in other areas. The dispatcher is unsure when trained responders will arrive.

### **Update #2 Questions:**

1.	What will v	you do with	the remains	of the	custodian	and the	student?
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- 2. What documentation does your school plan require in the case of these fatalities?
- 3. How does your school plan address the potential liability issue in the case of the student death?

## **EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO UPDATE #2 (CONTINUED)**

	EARTHQUARE GOLIVARIO OF DATE #2 (GOLITINOED)
4.	How are you handling parent/student reunification?
5.	What staff is available to help the special education teacher?
6.	Draw your organization chart as it looks at this time.
7.	What should you do to calm the parent of the child in the gym?
8.	How will you handle the students and staff who must spend the night?

# EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO UPDATE #2 (CONTINUED)



## **EARTHQUAKE SCENARIO UPDATE #3**

# [Distribute this handout 60 minutes into this exercise!]

It is now 3:15 a.m., and a several firefighters have walked up to the school. The fire captain is giving the firefighters directions and is approaching the Incident Command Post area.

Update #3 Questions:		
1.	What information will you provide to the fire captain during your transfer-of-command briefing?	
2.	What is your role in the incident at this point?	
3.	What insights has participating in this exercise provided you about your school's or district's state of readiness for an emergency situation involving multiple casualties?	
4.	What revisions would you recommend for your emergency plan as a result of this exercise?	