



NEWS RELEASE

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The Nebraska Department of Education is Hosting “I Love U Guys” School Safety Reunification Exercises

Groups of educators, law enforcement officers and first responders from across Nebraska are joining the Nebraska Department of Education’s School Safety staff for a series of specialized trainings from the “I Love U Guys” Foundation at three different sites.

NDE staff will help schools in developing safe school communities during emergency situations by putting Standard Reunification Method (SRM) into a practical exercise. The SRM-Reunification Exercises (SRM-REx) will be giving school communities and their surrounding partners the opportunity to practice how to reunite children with their families during mock emergency incidents.

The one-day training will include in person, hands-on simulated emergency events at three locations across Nebraska. The exercises will be from 8am to 4:30pm at the following the locations:

- On March 17th at Ainsworth High School, 520 East 2nd, Ainsworth, Nebraska
- On March 19th at North Platte High School, 1220 West 2nd Street, North Platte, Nebraska
- On March 21st at Wahoo High School, 2201 N. Locust Street, Wahoo, Nebraska

The purpose behind this training is to bring together a variety of different partners, agencies, and school personnel so everyone can work together more efficiently during a real emergency.

“Parents practice reunification daily with their children when they pick them up from school,” said NDE School Safety and Security Director Jay Martin. “However, during emergencies more people and challenges come into play leading to chaos if it is not practiced. These events are meant to reduce the potential of chaos and be as prepared as possible for an emergency.”

The events will also emphasize key components to avoiding emergency situations all together such as having Threat Assessment Teams at every school and using reporting services like Safe2HelpNE, a system designed for students, staff, and parents to anonymously report concerning behavior which could impact the safety of students or schools across Nebraska.

To learn more about Nebraska Department of Education School Safety visit: <https://www.education.ne.gov/safety/>

To learn more about the Standard Response Protocol/Standard Reunification Method visit: <https://iloveguys.org/#Hugs>

To learn more about Safe2HelpNE visit: <https://education.ne.gov/safety/safe2help-faq/> or <https://www.safe2helpne.org>

To learn more about Threat Assessment trainings: <https://esupdo.org/Workshops/WorkshopDetails.aspx?WorkshopID=395>

If you have questions or comments or would like to attend the training, please contact: jay.martin@nebraska.gov, 402-417-2944 or scott.stemper@nebraska.gov, 402-309-4053.

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