



SCHOOL INSURANCE NEWSLETTER

May 2018

Charter Buses

Many Districts use charter buses for special trips. We recently were asked by a district to review the insurance certificates provided by operators. Of the 11 certificates reviewed, not a single one complied with the district's insurance requirements. We use a [worksheet](#) to check for compliance. Additional Insured, Waiver of Subrogation and Notice of Cancellation endorsements are required. This form can also be modified and used for other required insurance certificates.

Does your district control the use of charter buses? Or do booster clubs, coaches, band directors, club sponsors and principals? Who monitors the contracts? What are the insurance provisions in those contracts? Does the operator certify that all employees have had recent background checks? Does the district's student accident insurance provide coverage for the activity? Charter bus companies have no immunity; be certain their liability limits are sufficient and coverage includes Medical Payments.

Flood Zones

Because of the mass flooding associated with Hurricane Harvey, we can expect redrawing of the Flood zone maps. Be sure to keep tabs of changes; information is usually published in your local newspaper; your tax office and appraisal district may also have that information.

Flood coverage depends on the zone in which your property is located. Limits and deductibles vary by insurance company; there are no standards. Determine if your flood zone determination is based on the building elevation or the location address.

Your buildings do not have to be located in a flood zone; upstream and downstream construction is often the cause of flood damage.

Wind Driven Rain

Most insurance policies exclude coverage for water damage if the water does not enter through a breach in the building. During Harvey a number of districts suffered damage from water entering around windows, doors and roof structures, and even through cinder block walls. Coverage may be available.

Shooter or Bomber

Does your district have Liability or Property Damage coverage in the event of either of these? After the Austin bombings there has been a big argument as to whether or not the events were acts of Terrorism. Could your district be sued for failure to provide a safe environment? Does your district have Terrorism coverage? Does it cover Domestic Terrorism? Does your district have coverage if an event is not designated as Terrorism? Who decides? Many policies require a Federal agency certification.

Risk Manager Available

An experienced risk manager recently became available. Contact us for more information.