



Lead, Serve, Support

BEST PRACTICES FOR PERSONAL SAFETY AT SCHOOL

Working with students is extremely rewarding, but can also be very challenging; especially when dealing with unpredictable and/or aggressive student behavior.

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Select attire which allows you to respond safely during an emergency without putting you at risk of injury.

• Wear:

- **Break-away** neckties or “clip-on” style ties if ties are required.
- **Break-away style ID badge lanyards** or ID name badges with a clip. Avoid carrying additional objects on the lanyard, such as keys which can be used as a weapon.
- **Sturdy, stable closed-toe, steel-toe shoes with *non-slip* soles and *low profile* heels** that are easy to move in and will provide protection if stepped on.
- **Long sleeves and long pants** - reduces the likelihood skin will be broken if kicked, scratched, or bitten.
- **Bite/cut resistant protective arm guards or sleeves** when available and working with a known biter.
- **Safety glasses, face masks, spit shields** when working with students known to spit.

• Avoid wearing:

- **Attractive nuisances** a student can grab, such as large hoop or dangling earrings, necklaces, scarves, hoodies, or clothing with strings or decorative items hanging off of clothing.
- **Rings** with elevated stones - they can scratch others or get caught on something. If you wear a ring with stones, consider turning it inward.
- **Loose or excessively baggy clothing** – it can easily be grabbed or pulled.
- **Tie back and secure long hair**, preferable in a bun. Loose hair, ponytails and/or braids can easily be grabbed or pulled.



CLIP-ON TIES ARE A SAFER/BETTER CHOICE THAN STANDARD TIES



POOR CHOICES



BETTER CHOICES



BEST PRACTICE

STEEL TOES AND EXCELLENT TREAD

FOR MORE ON PERSONAL SAFETY, LOGIN INTO SAFESCHOOLS TO VIEW:

- Classroom Safety (16 mins)
- Special Education: Safety in the Classroom (23 mins)

Consider taking “Right Response” training offered by Clear Risk Solutions

SAFETY MATTERS