

October 26, 2021

AVOID INJURY WITH PROPER DRESS AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

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

- **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.
- **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.
- **Tie back and secure long hair**, preferable in a bun. Loose hair, ponytails and/or braids can easily be grabbed or pulled.

- **If you are not properly conditioned DO NOT:**

- **Lift uncooperative kids off the ground/wheelchair by yourself.**
- **Chase students who run, use radio to get help from office.**

- **In your room eliminate the following:**

- **Items that can be thrown by students i.e. metal water bottles, computer screens, flower pots, etc.**
- **Scents that can be disruptive to students, these include plug in scents, and cleaners/disinfectant.**



If you have any questions or need help with any of the above items, please reach out to the Safety Services team.

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