

Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools Nemaha NRD Hazard Mitigation Plan 2026

Board Information Handout

What is the Hazard Mitigation Plan?

The Nemaha NRD Hazard Mitigation Plan is a regional emergency preparedness and disaster planning document developed with FEMA and Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) guidance. Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools participated as a listed jurisdiction in the regional planning process.

The plan was officially reviewed and approved by both NEMA and FEMA in 2026.

1. Maintains Eligibility for FEMA Mitigation Grants

Participation in an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan allows SDA Schools to remain eligible for certain FEMA hazard mitigation and disaster-related grant opportunities.

Examples may include:

- Safe rooms or storm shelter projects
- Backup generators
- Facility hardening
- Emergency communication upgrades
- Cybersecurity and technology resiliency projects
- Flood mitigation or drainage improvements
- Safety and warning system improvements

2. Identifies Risks Relevant to Our School District

The plan identifies several hazards that could significantly impact Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools and our community.

SDA's prioritized hazards include:

- Severe Thunderstorms
- Severe Winter Storms
- Tornadoes and High Winds
- Terrorism/Cyber Attacks

3. Supports Long-Term Safety Planning

The plan helps guide future district decision-making related to:

- Student and staff safety
- Emergency preparedness
- Facility resilience
- Communication systems
- Coordination with local emergency management and first responders

Important Clarification

Adopting the Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- DOES NOT commit the district to spending money
- DOES NOT require specific construction projects
- DOES NOT create new mandates for the district

Instead, it provides a planning framework and preserves eligibility for future mitigation funding opportunities.

Next Steps

The Board will be asked to formally adopt the Nemaha NRD Hazard Mitigation Plan by resolution as recommended by FEMA and NEMA.

This adoption confirms SDA's participation in the regional planning effort and maintains eligibility for applicable hazard mitigation funding opportunities.

Reference:

Nemaha NRD Hazard Mitigation Plan 2026

Approved by Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and FEMA

Plan participant: Syracuse-Dunbar-Avooca Public Schools