



MARIN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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DATE: August 23, 2010

TO: Marin County Superintendents, School Principals, Headmasters
Marin County K-12 Principals
Marin County Private School Principals and Headmasters

FROM: Mary Jane Burke
Marin County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: The Great California ShakeOut

The Great California ShakeOut Drill on October 21, 2010 provides an opportunity for our schools and local agencies to prepare and practice for a catastrophic earthquake. Earthquakes are an omnipresent and unpredictable hazard in this region. The U.S. Geological Survey forecasts a 63% probability of a magnitude 6.7 or greater earthquake occurring in the San Francisco Bay Area within the next 30 years. An earthquake of such scale, capable of causing widespread injury and damage, is most likely to occur on one of seven main fault systems, including the three that transverse Marin County or run alongside its borders--the San Andreas, Northern Hayward and Rodgers Creek Faults.

The ShakeOut exercise commences at 10:21 a.m. The Marin County Office of Education (MCOE) school sites will participate by conducting a drop, cover and hold on drill for 60 seconds, followed by an evacuation and accountability check of all students and staff. Please join us in participating in this constructive training exercise. Go to <http://www.shakeout.org/schools/register> and pledge your participation. Registered participants will receive detailed information for planning drills, promoting participation, teaching about earthquakes and preparing families.

The ShakeOut is coordinated by the Earthquake Country Alliance, a statewide collaborative that includes many organizations committed to earthquake and emergency preparedness. Northern California participants include the U.S. Geological Survey, California Emergency Management Agency, American Red Cross, California Department of Education, Bay Area Earthquake Alliance, Association of Bay Area Governments, and many others.

For more information about the Great California ShakeOut, please visit the website at <http://www.shakeout.org> or contact Luke McCann, Assistant Superintendent, at 415/499-5872 or by e-mail at emergencyservices@marin.k12.ca.us.