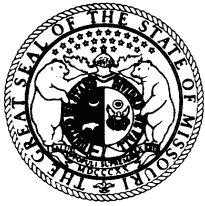


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FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

April 26, 2011

Advisory: Columbia school will participate in ShakeOut earthquake drill Thursday, April 28

Paxton Keeley Elementary School is one of more than 350 schools across Missouri participating in the first ever 11-state earthquake drill

The largest earthquake drill ever in Missouri will take place across the state at 10:15 a.m. April 28, and **Paxton Keeley Elementary School in Columbia** will be participating. Paxton Keeley was one of the first schools in Missouri to register for the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, and its students will participate in a highly visual **"Drop, Cover, Hold On"** earthquake drill.

Nearly three million people in the central U.S. will take part in the first multi-state earthquake drill ever conducted in the region. In Missouri, more than 358,000 students and staff at more than 429 school districts and individual schools are among the more than 470,000 who are registered to take part in the drill.

Date: Thursday, April 28
Time: Arrive by 10 a.m. for drill at 10:15 a.m.
Location: Paxton Keeley Elementary School, 201 Park De Ville Drive, Columbia

To see all Missouri schools registered to participate, and for more details on the ShakeOut, go to http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/state_participant_list.php?state=MO&orgtype=school.

More information on earthquake history, geology and preparedness in Missouri is available at the State Emergency Management Agency's earthquake preparedness Web site -- http://sema.dps.mo.gov/earthquake_preparedness_2011/.

To assist broadcast media report on the ShakeOut drill, a Web site has been created that provides important video and other resources for media coverage: www.moeqmedia.com. The site includes broadcast quality video of Missouri students participating in ShakeOut drills and sound bites from



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Missouri. The site may be especially helpful for meteorologists, science, and education reporters who wish to report on the ShakeOut drill in advance of April 28.

The ShakeOut drill is part of the bicentennial commemoration of the great New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-12. The **New Madrid Seismic Zone**, centered in southeast Missouri, is the nation's most active earthquake zone east of the Rocky Mountains. At least three of the largest earthquakes in the continental United States occurred in the region from 1811-12. The largest of the quakes was centered in New Madrid and occurred on Feb. 7, 1812. The earthquakes altered the flow of the Mississippi River, turned rich farmland into fields of sand and destroyed countless structures.

The earthquakes were felt all the way to the east coast, and were followed by aftershocks that continued for more than two years. More than 2,000 shocks were felt at least 180 miles away from their epicenters.