Bushfire Emergency Plan

Assessment
A site assessment was conducted by the Captain of the Walpole Fire & Rescue, Walpole Police Station Officer-in-Charge and School Principal on 9 December 2011.

Buildings are not surrounded by heavy vegetation with the School oval providing a natural fire break from the forest. The School has been designated as “Low Risk”. However the open slats that enclose the School’s building foundations do present a significant risk in that:

- leaves, rubbish etc accumulate beneath the buildings
- any spark, embers or other ignition source that happened to find its way under the buildings would undoubtedly cause the buildings to quickly be engulfed in flames.

However, there is a risk that a fire may impact on the School. For this impact to be significant, it would have to be a large hot fire front and this would most likely approach the School from the Boronia Ridge direction; some protection is afforded by the inlet and reasonable notice of any threat should be forthcoming.

Overall community response including School response to threat of bushfire will be coordinated by the Captain of the Walpole Fire and Rescue and the Duty Fire Officer from DEC.

Principal or delegate assumes School-based coordination.

Walpole Primary School Fire Safety Plan
The decision to stay or go when threatened by a bushfire will be determined by the Captain of the Walpole Fire & Rescue and the Principal. A site assessment on December 2011 indicated that a safe haven is available at the school. The School will only be evacuated to the Community Recreation Centre if plenty of notice is given about the approach of a large hot fire.

Safe Haven
Rooms 2 & 3 have been designated as “Safe Haven” rooms in the event of a bushfire. These rooms are located close to toilet and drinking facilities.

Water is available via one fire hydrant located at the intersection of Jones and Swan Streets.

Gas Bottles
There are three locations in which gas bottles are located. (See map) The school gardener will be responsible for turning off all gas in the event of a fire.

Electricity
There are four Electricity mains boards. The school gardener will be responsible for turning off all electricity in the event of a fire.

Hazardous Materials
There are some hazardous materials stored close to the School in the DEC facilities that are sited in the property across Latham St to the north of the School. In the event that an emergency is advised by DEC students will gather in Rooms 2 and 3.
Fire Safety Plan
The primary objective of staff at Walpole Primary School is to ensure the safety of students. Protection of facilities remains the responsibility of emergency services.
- Walpole Fire & Rescue manages fire within the confines of the Walpole town area.
- DEC manages fire outside of the town area.

IF TIME PERMITS THE EVACUATION SITE WILL BE THE RECREATION CENTRE. A KEY CAN BE OBTAINED FROM DEC.

To ensure the safety of students, the following action plan will be followed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seeks advice and information from the Captain Fire &amp; Rescue, DEC Duty Officer and FESA Officer in Charge.</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish communication with Police</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure telephones are attended to answer calls from concerned parents (98401020 and 98401266)</td>
<td>Registrar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principals' private line reserved for and used to communicate with emergency services (98401483)</td>
<td>Registrar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notify Albany DEO and South West DEO, Regional Executive Director of situation. Reserve school mobile number for communication with District Office: (0429682017)</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure reticulation in all areas is turned on</td>
<td>Gardener</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinate the movement of all students to Rooms 2 &amp; 3.</td>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students to bring water bottles if they have them.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure all school staff are present</td>
<td>Registrar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure all students are present</td>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physically check all other buildings and grounds for any person and direct them to Rooms 2 &amp; 3.</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gather asthma sufferers together and monitor. If necessary transport to Silver Chain</td>
<td>Classroom Teacher as appointed by Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain to students that there will be a considerable amount of smoke with the passing of the fire front but that the building is very safe and nobody is to go outside.</td>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liaise with emergency services coordinator to determine when it is safe to come out of classroom block.</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure everybody remains in the central teaching block until they are notified by the Principal that it is safe to come out. During the passage of the fire front, students should be kept calm and seated on the floor.</td>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct an external assessment after the passage of the fire front</td>
<td>Principal with fire officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess, in conjunction with Police, how to facilitate the collection of children by parents should there be a need.</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liaise with Police and Department for Community Development regarding any need for emergency accommodation where home property has been destroyed</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liaise with District Office Student Services and Health Department regarding any need for counselling support</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Action Plan after incident or at least annually.</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is expected that any fire front will pass in 20 to 30 minutes. During this time there will be considerable smoke and many embers may blow around the school and start small spot fires. The school will be a priority point for protection by emergency services and these officers will attend to small spot fires as the need arises.
Contact Details

Principal 0429682017
Walpole PS (District Office Only) 0429682017
Walpole PS (Emergency Services Only) 98401483
Walpole PS (Parents Only) 98401020
Denmark Police 98481311
Walpole Police 98401618

Albany Education Office 98410333
South West DEO 97910300

Department for Community Development 98410777
DEC Duty Officer 98400400

Captain Fire & Rescue 0429239503
Fire Emergency Services 000

Silver Chain 98400900
Ambulance 000

Bus Contractors:
North Walpole Mal & Janine Smeathers 98401163
Nornalup Mal & Janine Smeathers 98401163
Tingledale Lee Cummuskey 98401019/0429784924
Tingledale Lorraine Bain 0448808524

Review date: December 2012
WALPOLE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PLAN

7 December 2011

Next Review due Term 4, 2012