

**CATOOSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY STORM SHELTER OPERATIONS
2000 S. Cherokee St, Catoosa, OK 74015**

We are pleased to inform you about the safe room/storm shelter located on the premises of Catoosa Public Schools at the Dome Cafeteria. This shelter has received the esteemed FEMA P-361 approval, attesting to its adherence to the highest safety standards and offering reliable protection during emergencies.

While the primary users of this facility are our students and staff, we want to extend its availability to community members during non-school hours in the face of imminent weather threats.

It is imperative to note, however, that access to the Dome Shelter is strictly reserved for instances of tornado **WATCHES** and is unavailable to the public during school hours (from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM). This protocol is established to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff members.

In the event that alternative shelter options are limited, individuals in close proximity may seek refuge within the shelter's confines during a Tornado Watch. ***We are committed to promptly disseminating information to the public regarding the shelter's availability through various communication channels in the event of imminent threats. Please be aware that the Dome can accommodate roughly 500 occupants during imminent weather.***

We kindly remind all potential users to adhere to the following guidelines:

- The Dome shelter on CPS campus is accessible during tornado watches when school is not in session **and** communication has been shared to the public concerning availability.
- Once the tornado watch is lifted, evacuation from the shelter becomes mandatory.
- Pets, food, drink, smoking, vaping, tobacco use, firearms, and the use of radios or music devices without earphones are prohibited within the shelter.
- To maintain the security and safety of all occupants, the doors of the shelter must remain closed at all times.

**** NOTE:** If sirens have sounded, the Dome will be locked and secured. It is highly recommended to **SHELTER IN PLACE** at that time that sirens have sounded.

COMMUNICATION CHANNELS FOR NOTIFICATION

It is important to understand the difference between a TORNADO WARNING and a TORNADO WATCH. A tornado watch is issued by the National Weather Service when weather conditions indicate a higher risk of severe weather that could produce a tornado. A tornado warning is issued when a tornado has been observed or detected by weather radar. The CPS Dome will only be available during a **TORNADO WATCH** which will be communicated in advance.

We are committed to promptly disseminating information to the public regarding the shelter's availability through these communication channels in the event of imminent threats.

Catoosa Public Schools - Facebook

Catoosa Public Schools - Website

Catoosa Public Schools App

Android

Apple

City of Catoosa App

City of Catoosa, OK on the App Store

City of Catoosa, Ok - Android

The CPS Dome shelter is equipped with state-of-the-art features and is designed to provide a secure refuge during times of crisis. We are proud to collaborate with our community to prioritize the safety and well-being of all residents. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Catoosa Public Schools Administration Team at 2000 S. Cherokee, Catoosa, OK 74017 or by calling 918-266-8603.