



North Coast Schools' Insurance Group

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SERVING DEL NORTE COUNTY AND HUMBOLDT COUNTY SCHOOLS

Vandalism on Campus

Vandalism is a problem, no matter what time of the year; it is important to remain vigilant and defend yourself and property from vandalism. Decreasing property crime like vandalism, burglary, and arson takes a community wide effort. Visible cooperation between local fire and law enforcement agencies, schools, businesses, and residents helps put property criminals on notice that they are being watched. Below are some tips to help you defend against vandalism at your district.

LIGHT – Ensuring that your property has adequate lighting is the best defense to deter, discourage, and prevent vandalism. It is recommended that you consult with a lighting expert to ensure proper placement and maximum effectiveness for your particular site.

FENCING – Installing fencing around your property is another proactive way to enhance security. A continuous perimeter fence is the first line of defense in a layered security plan and it is a key component in controlling access.

LOCKS – Fencing and gates are only effective if they are actually locked and secured. Remembering to lock gates will greatly enhance your property's overall security and aid in the prevention of vandalism.

SEE Something, SAY Something – Too often, people think that reporting smaller acts of vandalism to the police is a waste of time. If you witness any act of vandalism or other property crime, call the police to report the incident. Alerting law enforcement promptly will help increase the chance of vandals being arrested and charged for their crimes.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE – Video surveillance cameras not only capture criminal activity in the act and aid with police investigations, they also serve as a huge deterrent to any would-be vandal. The physical presence alone of a security camera goes a long way in discouraging criminal activity.

SECURITY PATROLS – The presence of security guards/personnel is one of the most effective ways to prevent vandalism or any other criminal activity. If hiring a security service is not in the budget, it is recommended that you contact your local police department and request patrols for any hot spot areas that may be experiencing criminal activity or vandalism.

CLEAN UP – Do not give vandals the satisfaction of allowing the public to see their acts of vandalism or graffiti. Implement a process/procedure for immediately cleaning and repairing damaged property. This prevents vandals from taking credit for their acts and enhancing their reputation amongst peers.

OBSERVE – Graffiti “artists” often practice by marking notebooks, folders, and backpacks with their monikers or “tag”. Graffiti can occasionally be tracked back to the vandal using their personal property as evidence.

