

School board expands emergency drills

by UPI

MONTREAL -- A Montreal-area school board is to begin expanded emergency drills this year for nearly 130 other safety threats besides fire. The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board spent more than \$200,000 and two years developing an analysis of about 130 situations that could threaten its schools, board Chairman Steve Bletas told The Gazette newspaper. This year, every classroom will have a detailed manual on safety procedures dealing not only with fires, but bomb threats, armed intruders and hostage situations, extreme weather, airplane crashes and even pandemic, Bletas said. An emergency-preparedness consultant will return from Alberta to teach key school staff, who will disseminate it among others. Students will then be trained on emergency procedures, the newspaper said.

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