



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF LOUISIANA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### State Fire Marshal Applauds Baskin Teachers for Fire Extinguisher Save

**BATON ROUGE-** State Fire Marshal Chief Bryan J. Adams wants to recognize and applaud two teachers from Baskin who quickly put out a fire at their school thanks to their awareness about the location of a fire extinguisher and knowledge about how to properly use it in an emergency.

“Teachers already stand out as our heroes in so many ways, but to see them show how they prioritize safety for their beloved students by being fire aware and prepared is encouraging and should be commended,” said Adams.

On January 12, 2024, Baskin Elementary teachers Lynzi Parker and Claire Wallace discovered a window A/C unit on fire in the teacher’s lounge. While the fire was beginning to spread to the curtains and into the ceiling, one teacher located a fire extinguisher while the other pulled the fire alarm to trigger an evacuation.

NFPA 101, the life safety code that the State Fire Marshal’s Office (SFM) follows to ensure building safety, requires emergency action plans for occupancies like education facilities to include staff members having a basic knowledge of fire safety equipment like fire extinguishers. This fire emergency and positive outcome is a testament to the success that comes with a confirmed and practiced emergency action plan. It also showcases why frequent fire drills in schools are so critical.

“The quick actions of these teachers saved lives, period,” said Adams, “I’d like to encourage every person who works in an educational facility to be trained in using fire extinguishers and to be familiar with where to find them around the buildings that they work in,” said Adams.

The SFM would like to share the most common method for using a fire extinguisher is the **PASS** method:

- P-** Pull the Pin
- A-** Aim the Hose at the base of the fire
- S-** Squeeze the Handle
- S-** Sweep the Spray side to side to cover the fire

To request fire extinguisher training, reach out to your local fire department or to the Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy (FETA) at 225-372-6944.

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