

Fire Alarms and Building Re-Entry - Protocol

Question: In the event of a fire alarm, during inclement weather, could the students be allowed back into the school building (gym or cafeteria) if the area is separated by fire doors and a foyer?

Answer: (17:29) **NO**

Students or Staff may not reenter the building until the fire department determines the building is safe for occupancy. Only the fire department, not the police department or school district, has the authority to order students back into the building (Inf. Opn. Att'y Gen. 83-67, 81-13).

Reference:

*School Law, 29th Edition, NYS School Boards Association*NYS Bar Association*