



## Site Protection for the Holidays

SIA member districts experience more property losses in the month of December than any other time of the year. Campuses closed for the holidays and dark nights make schools vulnerable to vandalism, theft and arson. Cold weather may result in damaged pipes and severe water damage.

### Protecting Your School Site

- ❖ Check to be sure your fire and intrusion alarms are working properly. Repair all elements that are malfunctioning.
- ❖ Check lighting on campus. Report burned out bulbs. Consider installing motion sensors.
- ❖ Shut down the gas supply to science rooms when school is out of session.
- ❖ Remove garbage cans when school is out of session. Garbage has been used as an ignition source for arson fires or may be used to keep an unwelcome visitor warm.
- ❖ Check fences and gates for damage.
- ❖ Get to know your neighbors and ask them to help keep an eye on your campus.
- ❖ Keep window coverings closed to hide room contents.
- ❖ If you have pipes that are exposed to cold air, interior and exterior, make sure they are fitted with proper insulation.
- ❖ Report all damage or leaking pipes to your site custodian or the Maintenance Department.
- ❖ Use the automated phone service to send calls home to your school families asking them to report any unusual activity during off-hours.
- ❖ To deter copper thieves, use tamper resistant hardware and steel cages on electrical boxes, air conditioning units and other apparatus containing copper components.

