



**SCHOOL DISTRICT PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BUILDING CODE SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
CODE INTERPRETATION**

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Subject Title: Reduction / Elimination of Fire Alarm Pull Stations  
Applicable Codes: 2017 FBC-B Section 907.2.3, Exception 4 and Exception 3  
2017 FFPC, NFPA 101, 14.3.4.2.3.2, 15.3.4.2.3.2, and 15.3.4.2.3.1  
Date: October 8, 2019

**Question:**

When may manual fire alarm pull stations be reduced or eliminated?

**Answers:**

**In new or existing buildings protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system;** locate manual fire alarm pull stations at:

1. One manual pull station in the main office near the fire alarm control panel.
2. One manual pull station within five feet of the main exit door in each of the assembly spaces (i.e. – cafeteria, gymnasium, media center, auditorium ~ lobby main exit door).
3. One manual pull station in the back of the kitchen, near the main exit door.

**In existing buildings without a sprinkler system, if all the following conditions apply:**

1. Interior corridors and halls are protected by ceiling mounted area smoke detectors.
2. Cafeteria, gymnasium, media center, and auditorium(s) are each protected by heat detectors or ceiling mounted area smoke detectors.
3. Laboratories and shop rooms are each protected by heat detectors or ceiling mounted area smoke detectors.
4. Facilities without interior corridors and halls must have heat detectors or ceiling mounted area smoke detectors in each classroom.

Then, locate manual fire alarm pull stations only at the locations required for fully sprinkled buildings, as shown above in the previous paragraph.

**New relocatable classrooms, or existing relocatable classrooms that are being moved, shall be provided with:**

1. One manual pull station (near the front door).
2. One heat detector or ceiling mounted area smoke detector.
3. One heat detector in the storage room, if so equipped.

*The term relocatable refers to single building units meeting the definitions for “relocatable/portable facility” and “modular facility”, as shown in 453.5.6, FBC-B 2017.*