EERI School Seismic Initiative
Best Practice Sharing Webinar #3
Thursday, 6/26/14

Audio Presentation Summary Notes:

Mike Mahoney—Multi-hazard guideline on improving school sheltering and related operations along with retrofitting existing school buildings to address earthquake, high wind (including tornado) and flooding (including storm surge)

• FEMA Guide development to start in Fall 2014
  o Target Audience: school administrators, officials, staff, teachers and interested parents
  o Multi-hazard approach (flood, tornado, earthquake)
  o In contract with Applied Technology Council (ATC)
  o Timeline – 2 years, dependent on funding
• Two Objectives for this Guide:
  1. School Operations (especially sheltering) for both no-notice and pre-notice disasters
     a. Earthquake focus: drop, cover, hold
     b. Tornado: safe room to evacuate (prompted by new code requirement for storm shelters in 2015 code)
     c. Flood
     d. Talk about pre-event preparation and post-event protocol
  2. How to improve buildings to protect staff and students
     ▪ Seismic Building Retrofit
     ▪ High wind retrofit
     ▪ Elevation for flood and storm surge shelters
     ▪ Identify red flags for existing construction to check
     ▪ Many schools are identified as shelters for community but are not designed for that level of safety prior to that designation.