

# Inflatable Slide Accident Hospitalizes 8 Students at Robinson School Event

Updated: Friday, 27 May 2011, 5:46 PM CDT  
Published : Friday, 27 May 2011, 2:40 PM CDT

Sun-Times Media Wire

Lyons, Ill. - An inflatable slide tipped over sending eight 5th-graders tumbling to the ground and then to hospitals during an outdoor event at a west suburban elementary school.

About 1 p.m. a group of students was participating in an end-of-the-year activity at the Robinson School at 4431 Gage Ave. in Lyons, according to Michael Warner, superintendent of Lyons Elementary School District 103.

Several children were atop the rented "freestanding" inflatable slide, which is about 15 feet tall, when it accidentally tipped, sending several kids to the asphalt below, according to Warner.

Lyons police and fire officials arrived about five minutes later to discover the slide flipped on its side on the north side of the school in a paved lot, according to Lyons police. It appeared that children were on the stairs and top of the slide when it toppled.

One student was bleeding from the head and dizzy when he was taken to Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Warner said.

Seven other fifth-graders were also hospitalized, Warner said. They were taken with minor injuries to Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital in La Grange and Loyola, Lyons Fire Chief Gordon Nord said.

A second alarm, which brought nine ambulances, was called as a precaution, Nord said.

"They had various degree of scrapes and bumps, and they were scared and upset," Warner said.

It was not known why the slide tipped over.

"I'm sure we will be talking to the company it was rented from to verify how it was set up," Warner said.

Lyons police are investigating.

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