Application of earthquake early warning systems for disaster prevention in schools

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Abstract
Sophisticated high technology like the Earthquake Early Warning System (EEWS) based on the nationwide earthquake observation networks in Japan has been applied for earthquake damage mitigation in various fields. The author has principally contributed to an application of EEWS in schools and its demonstration tests.

This paper describes first the EEWS for schools, a demonstration test at an elementary school in Sendai and the extended demonstration tests for other three elementary schools and one junior high school. Then, the transmission system of the real time earthquake information using an Intranet connecting schools is introduced, together with a demonstrative test using the School in Wide Area Network (SWAN) in Miyagi prefecture, Japan. Learning from the demonstration tests and future perspectives of expansion of the EEWS in schools are also addressed.