

SANTA FE ISD

SAFETY MATTERS

Santa Fe ISD Safe and Secure Schools Update

August 15, 2019

Safety is our highest priority, and we continue to work diligently to provide a safe and supportive learning environment in our schools for our students and staff. We want to ensure you that the District continues to take actions to improve safety and security. In this issue of Safety Matters, we want to reflect on the progress made to improve safety for our students, staff and our community and share with you what you can expect for the 2019-2020 school year.

Our first edition of Safety Matters on August 24, 2018, coincided with the start of school. Since that first edition, 14 other editions provided updates on our work to improve safety and security [Safety Matters archives](#).

Metal Detectors

To help improve safety and security, in August of 2018, Santa Fe ISD installed nineteen metal detectors with nine at the high school, six at the junior high school and two metal detectors (a total of four) at both Roy J. Wollam and Dan J. Kubacak Elementary Schools. In 2019, the high school and junior high metal detector numbers will remain the same with each elementary school including our newest elementary, William F. Barnett, equipped with two (2) metal detectors. The Cowan Education Support Center will also have two (2) metal detectors increasing the number of metal detectors district wide from nineteen to twenty three.

Your continued patience and support is appreciated as we begin this school year with the metal detectors to improve the entry process for the safety of our students and staff. Here are some tips for students at the high school and junior high to help shorten the time it takes to move through the metal detectors:



- Learn the items that will not clear the detectors and remove them prior to entering.
- If possible, limit the number of metal items that you bring to school.
- Students might wish to place all small metal items in a one gallon sized Ziploc bag (please see attached picture). This will allow students to easily remove the bag from their backpack when they approach the metal detector.
- Binders with multiple zippers take longer to search.
- Any accessory or clothing item adorned with metals may create delays.

Dress Code

Standards for dress and grooming in Santa Fe ISD have been established to teach good grooming and hygiene, instill discipline and modesty, demonstrate respect for authority, prevent disruption, enhance safety and security, and provide a positive learning environment. Click on the [2019-2020 Dress Code & Grooming Requirements](#).

District Safety Enhancements for 2019-2020 Academic Year


- **All District staff will be trained on the following:**
 - District Emergency Procedures-Crisis Emergency Plan
 - CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events)
 - SRP (Standard Response Protocols)
 - Stop The Bleed
 - Mental Health/Psychological First Aide Self-Care
 - Suicide Awareness & Prevention
 - Social, Emotional and Behavior Support
 - Threat Assessment Team Training (District & Campus Administrators, Counselors, Lead Nurse, Police Staff and selected staff)
 - Critical Incident Stress Management
 - Safe Schools (To include but not limited to Response to Active Shooter, Bullying Recognition & Response, Health Emergencies, Child Abuse Identification and Crisis Response & Recovery)
 - PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention & Support)

- **Mental Health Support**
 - Four (4) SFHS Academic Counselors, (4) HS Counselors specialized in Mental Health/Trauma Support
 - Addition of five (5) Region 4 Counselors-One at each elementary school and two at the JH
 - Collaboration with The Gulf Coast Center, Texas Children's Hospital Trauma and Grief Center Counselors and the Santa Fe Resiliency Center

- **Camera Monitoring Updates**
 - The District has increased the number of cameras District wide and updated to 4 lens cameras
 - Real-time camera monitoring with two (2) employees dedicated to daily full-time monitoring
 - Facial recognition software at each District facility

- **Localized Alarms**
 - Additional 22 doors, outside of main entrances, with localized alarms at HS
 - Text and emails are sent to SFISD Police Department and Administrators when doors are opened or compromised
 - Dual Authentication Credentials-Employees must use ID badge and fingerprint to access campus buildings (Bioreading and key cards not yet accessible in all facilities)

- **Human Intelligence**
 - Ongoing Social Media Monitoring
 - "Gaggle" searches internet and District computers providing ongoing email monitoring
 - RAVE App for emergency notifications-employees, including substitutes, have access through their personal cell phone
 - Video monitoring
 - First Net phones – priority cellular service for law enforcement personnel
 - Mutual Link system allows communications and shares District maps and information to Emergency Management agencies. It increases situational awareness to officers responding to the District in times of an emergency. It decreases notification time, providing a shortened response time.
 - PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention & Support)

- Increased active shooter drills
- Increased security audits
- **District Fire Alarm & PA Systems**
 - Pre-recorded messages that align with Standard Response Protocols
 - HS has panic alarms in every classroom; if triggered sends messages to Mutual Link. Mutual Link allows the Police Dispatcher to notify appropriate agencies that need to be contacted via video or radio
 - William F. Barnett teachers have panic buttons on their audio enhancement devices which communicate with Mutual Link.
 - RAVE Application is a mass notification for all staff members, which communicates directly with the Mutual Link system including a panic button option.
- **Physical Design & Safety**
 - All District campuses have secure entrances
 - Secure vestibule was expanded at the high school and an expanded security vestibule was constructed at RJ Wollam Elementary 
 - All District campuses received additional fencing
 - Updated maps and door numbering across the District to assist First Responders
 - SFISD Police Department ensuring each classroom in the District is equipped with emergency containers (containing life-saving emergency first aid equipment, tourniquets, and other contents)
 - “Indian Out of Sight Zone” signs to alert students and staff where to stand to be out of visual site of an intruder in each classroom
 - Every staff member, including substitutes, have an SRP (Standard Response Protocol) response card attached to their ID badge
- **Transportation Safety**
 - Zonar Management System-allows notification to SFHS and SFJH parents of student’s location when the student enters and exits the bus. Student ID is required. Implementation in late September of 2019, with elementary students to be implemented in 2020
 - Routing assessment study and application for reducing and avoiding hazardous road conditions including eliminating dangerous turnarounds and roads too narrow for buses to safely pass another vehicle



Reminder: The Resiliency Center

The Resiliency Center serves as a free long-term resource for healing the Santa Fe community. The center’s caring professionals provide a safe and supportive healing environment dedicated to everyone. The center works with partner agencies that provide spiritual care referrals, training, advocacy, legal aid, recreational therapy and more. The Resiliency Center is open daily. For more information, contact the center directly at 409-218-7129 or email cgaylord@ci.santa-fe-tx.us.

We look forward to a very successful 2019-2020 school year! We thank our students, staff, parents and community for their support and input as we work together to continue to provide a positive learning environment in our schools. Our work continues as we enter this new school year.

Our Community. Our Legacy. Our Future.