



Columbus City Schools Office of Safety and Security Service

Chris Ward, Director
889 East 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211
614.365.5638
www.ccssoh.us

Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

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Dear Columbus City Schools families,

Welcome back from our winter break. Continued safety inside our school buildings is one of the highest priorities in Columbus City Schools. The Office of Safety and Security is committed to identifying and investing in new resources to further protect our students and staff. With your help, we are set to launch a new feature to better screen visitors, volunteers and vendors who come into our buildings.

Starting this month, the main offices in all Columbus City Schools will ask visitors to sign-in and present identification (such as a driver's license) to be scanned into our new LobbyGuard digital visitor management system.

Using the information from a driver's license or state identification card, the LobbyGuard system determines if and how the visitor is connected to the school - either as a parent/guardian, regular volunteer, or District-approved vendor - and whether that person has permission to enter the building. The system also prints a self-adhesive visitor badge (a sticker similar to the picture below) so all guests to the building are easily identified. Any visitor not wearing a badge will be escorted back to the front office.

The system will also check the scanned information against a national database of registered sex offenders as well as school-entered information on individuals who have previously been asked to stay off the building property.

This new security feature does not replace the valuable safety supervision of our school secretaries, front office staff, and building principals, who often best know who should and shouldn't be inside your child's school. **If you do not have a driver's license, please bring another form of valid photo ID or visit ahead of time with the staff in the main office.** Once you've been approved to enter the building, the LobbyGuard system will remember your name and picture for future use.



We appreciate your patience as we implement the LobbyGuard system across the District. Your continued support and partnership are essential in helping to keep our schools safe and encouraging a positive school climate that's conducive to learning and growth.

If you have questions, please call our Office of Customer Relations at 614-365-8888 or look for additional information on our website at www.ccssoh.us. Office staff at your child's school will also be able to assist you.

Thank you,

Chris Ward
Director
Office of Safety and Security Services