

Bullard Independent School District

August 13, 2019



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers to Bullard ISD students,

Today's environment of increased occurrences of shooting events across the country at places of employment, public gatherings, and far too many schools demands enhanced security procedures to keep our students and staff as safe as possible. Bullard Independent School District (BISD) has been and will continue to build a comprehensive, multi-layered system of security to protect your loved ones.

Over the summer break, BISD has added security features to every school building in the district to decrease the potential for an outside threat actor to gain access. Our visitors will continue to be welcomed into our school offices through a camera and buzzer system, however beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, office personnel will request visitors to identify themselves, the purpose for the visit, and confirm the visitor has their state-issued photo identification before allowing entry into a newly created secure vestibule. Upon entry, each visitor will be required to scan their ID through a School Gate Guardian kiosk located in the vestibule.



The School Gate Guardian visitor management software program checks each visitor's ID against a nationally recognized sexual offender database. Beginning the first day of the 2019-2020 school year, all visitors must present a valid driver's license or other state-issued photo identification to enter a school. The ID will be scanned at each visit, and those cleared will receive a printed, time expiring badge containing their name and photo before exiting the secure vestibule. The process to scan an ID, run the check, and print a badge should take less than 1 minute to complete. This badge must be worn and visible at all times during your visit. When leaving the school, you will be required to exit through the main office to return your badge and be scanned out of the system.

If a positive match occurs, district personnel will be immediately and discreetly alerted. To prevent false positives, the system compares a photograph of the actual registered sex offender to the visitor. Bullard Independent School District is storing the minimally required data with regards to the new visitor management system and we maintain the highest level of security protocols for the protection of this data.

BISD has also installed an impact security film product (the same as used on Federal buildings after 9/11) on our secure vestibule and high threat area windows which will significantly delay individuals attempting to gain entry to our facilities in these areas. This delay during an attempted breach will provide valuable time for our staff to relocate students to another area for safety, and provide additional time for first responders to arrive.

Finally, should a threat actor make entry into our facilities, barricade devices have been installed in every classroom and common area to prevent unwanted entry, empowering staff and students to choose to Avoid the threat, Deny entry/access, or if necessary Defend against the threat. As these barricade devices have been proven to withstand over 4,200 lbs of force and with children of my own in multiple buildings in the District, I am confident no intruder can gain entry into a barricaded classroom at BISD.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding during the implementation of our new security procedures. These measures are intended to ensure the safety of students and staff.

John C. Jones
Director of School Safety
Bullard Independent School District