



Carbondale Community High School District 165

Administrative Center

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CCHS Families,

We hope your holiday season has been filled with joy and laughter. As the first semester comes to a close, we want to share a few updates with everyone regarding our campus:

1. The safety and security of our campus continues to be a priority for our school district. In an effort to proactively ensure the safety of our campus, the CCHS Board of Education approved the purchase of metal detectors to be used upon entry into our buildings and large events that will be held on campus. The walkthrough weapon detection systems by [CEIA OPENGATE](#), will allow students to walkthrough the device with their backpacks on and will detect dense metal objects that will signal the need for a formal search of materials if notified.
2. This system was chosen because it is a free flowing system, that does not require individuals to empty their pockets, bags, or purses to detect a potential weapon. The free flowing nature of the system allows for large crowds to be scanned in a short period of time.
3. During the last week of the semester, the CCHS administration will begin piloting the use of the detectors at entrances into the building prior to full implementation during the second semester. The pilot will assist the administration in monitoring the sensitivity of the system to detect items like laptops or binders so that adjustments can be made prior to full implementation. Please be on the lookout for updates on our progress on this initiative.

Construction Updates

1. The cafeteria project is on target to be completed for the start of second semester on Thursday, January 5. Completion of this project will allow the Giant City parking lot to be fully open for parking, pick-up, and drop off.
2. As mentioned above, we are continuing to find ways to update the safety of our campus. Another project that has been approved by our Board of Education is the completion of a secure visitor's entrance on the Walnut Street side of the building. This project will begin early January and will require our Walnut Street entrance to be closed during construction. Buses will continue to pick up and drop off students on the Walnut Street side of the building but all other traffic will be directed to the Giant City entrance for admission into the building.

Final examinations are scheduled for December 19th and 20th. Student dismissal will be at 12:20 on each of these days. Winter break for students will be from December 21 thru January 4. The second semester will begin on Thursday, January 5 with a half day of school that dismisses at 11:45. If you have any questions on any of these items, please feel free to reach out for assistance.

Daniel Booth, Superintendent