

January 7, 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are charged to provide the safest environment for all who enter and work in our building. Over the Christmas holidays, a new security system has been installed in the school. The call for greater security in our school by parents and staff was taken into consideration in making this major decision. The decision to install a more extensive system was made before the recent tragic events at Westroads. However, that tragedy confirmed our plans to improve security.

Greater safety and security will necessitate changes in how our building is accessed by all persons. An intercom and buzzer system is now next to the main school door entry. When the doors are locked, parents, visitors, students, etc. will need to buzz the school office, announce who you are, the purpose of your visit, and then you will be buzzed into the school entry.

Various doors throughout our facility have also been secured and will be locked or continue to be locked during school hours. This includes the doors by the ministry offices and the doors on the lower level by the social hall and art center. In addition, the double set of doors by the social hall at the bottom of the steps will now be locked and accessed by ringing into the social hall. Therefore, parents coming to have lunch with their children will first check into the school office, receive a visitor's badge from the school office, and then proceed to the social hall where they will also be buzzed in.

The installation of the new security system does not affect entrance to the gym by coaches and their teams. They will continue to use the coded entry for practices and games. We will appreciate your patience and understanding as we implement this security system. Safety will be our first and foremost concern as we work through any problems. Thank you for your cooperation.

Blessings and Peace,

Mary A. McGuire