

Dear Kowboy Parents and Guardians,

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and security of our students and staff at Osceola High, I am writing to inform you about the installation of new weapons detection devices at our high school for this upcoming school year.

The decision to implement these devices was made after careful consideration and consultation with the district's Safety and Security team, law enforcement, and educational leaders. Our primary goal is to create a safe and welcoming environment where all students can focus on their education without fear or distraction.

We understand that the introduction of these devices may raise questions. Please allow me to address some key points to reassure you:

1. **Enhanced Safety Measures:** The new weapons detection devices are state-of-the-art and have been proven to be effective in identifying potential threats. Their presence will act as a strong deterrent and significantly reduce the risk of dangerous items being brought onto campus.
2. **Minimal Disruption:** The devices are designed to be non-intrusive and will be seamlessly integrated into our on-campus security procedures. Every day, students will be required to enter our campus through one of two entryways. They will be asked to remain three-feet apart and to place their computers, any large three-ring binders, eyeglass cases, and umbrellas that they may have on a table while walking through the device. Once through the device, the student will retrieve their items and continue to class. If an alert occurs, the student will be asked to step to the side for a detailed search of their bag.
3. **Privacy Considerations:** We are committed to maintaining the privacy and dignity of all students. The devices do not capture or store personal data, and trained staff will handle any alerts with the utmost discretion and professionalism.
4. **Comprehensive Training:** Our staff have undergone thorough training on the operation of the devices and the appropriate response protocols. This ensures that any potential threat is addressed promptly and effectively.
5. **Community Collaboration:** We believe in working together as a community to maintain a safe school environment. We will continue to collaborate with parents, students, and local authorities to ensure that our safety measures are effective and respectful of everyone's rights.

We value your partnership and support in making Osceola High School a safe place for all students. If you have any questions about the new weapons detection devices, please do not hesitate to contact the school administration. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we take these important steps to enhance the security of our school.

Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy

Principal