

# CRYSTAL CITY #47 SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Thursday, March 1, 2018

Dear School Community,

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday and approved a comprehensive set of safety measures and district technological enhancements for the Crystal City 47 School District. Please allow me your time in order to inform you of these exciting alterations which will make the district much more secure for our students and staff.

## Elementary Fence

The elementary playground will receive a chain link fence which will be installed on top of the stone fence currently around the playground. This fence will extend another four feet which will contain young children in the playground and keep uninvited guests out of the area during school hours. Gates will be installed at the front of the circle drive and adjacent to the library faculty parking lot to close off the area and make it secure. The Parent – Teachers Organization (P.T.O.) is looking into purchasing large sun screens for the playground also.

## Pre-School

I hope you have had the opportunity to read the article in the Jefferson County Leader concerning the opening of a new preschool program. The location of the preschool classrooms will be in the two current kindergarten classrooms in the front, southeast corner of the building. These classrooms have exits directly to the playground and restrooms, which will accommodate this age group of children nicely. The school board plans on purchasing preschool appropriate playground equipment that will be located in the western half of the current playground area.

A preschool is an exciting addition to our elementary school. The main goal of this venture is to help children with school readiness measures which prepare them best for Kindergarten. I have led a preschool program in my previous district and I know that this is the best thing a district can do to prepare our young children for successful school experiences.

## Security: Surveillance System

The Board of Education and district administration have worked for the better part of a year in studying, planning, and executing a successful selection of a comprehensive security system. Tuesday night the Board of Education chose Hutson Glass and DH Pace to provide three elements which will work in tandem to provide the security the district needs.

DH Pace will install 66 security cameras throughout the district. The elementary will receive 25 cameras and the high school will receive 41. These camera systems will connect to a recording

device which will record footage in excess of 30 days. The elementary and high school will each have 10 exterior cameras. The camera system will be able to be viewed by district administration through secure login and the district will work with the Crystal City Police Department in granting them access to the district's surveillance system in certain circumstances.

#### Security: Card Access Control

Access control will be installed on 16 exterior doors throughout the district. The elementary will have six access control doors and the high school will have 10. These doors will be accessible by faculty and staff with a special card. The card swipes will be logged in an access computer system. There will be a set time frame before and after school when the two front set of doors at the elementary and high school along with the gymnasium foyer doors at the high school will be opened by the access program to allow entry by school children. After this time frame the doors will be locked and anyone else will have to gain access by being buzzed in by the building secretaries at the front entrances. These access systems are designed to keep people from gaining easy access to the district's buildings. It is not designed to keep people in as this is against the law. Every door on campus will continue to be an exit door. However, with this new system anyone leaving the doors will alert the offices of the egress and will cause a security camera to activate and take footage of those departing.

#### Security: Doors

Hutson Glass will install 36 new laminated security glass and FRP doors that will provide not only an esthetic improvement but a secure entry point as well. This is a welcome improvement both to improve security and the functionality of the facilities. These doors will dramatically improve the appearance of the schools and alleviate continued maintenance on the existing apparatuses.

#### Technological Infrastructure

With these new systems comes a need for a technological infrastructure upgrade. This upgrade will greatly increase bandwidth for our wireless internet needs. As the district moves toward full implementation of computer based instruction in seventh through twelfth grades a stronger, more robust set of equipment will be necessary. This upgrade and expansion of our internal connections will improve our delivery of internet based instruction and make it secure for the next decade. Our youth live in the technology world. We need to reach them instructionally where they are.

Thank you for your time in allowing me to make you aware of the great opportunities we are providing the students of Crystal City 47 School District. If you have any questions concerning this correspondence feel free to contact the Superintendent's Office at 636-937-4411, extension 5.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Harrison".

Philip Harrison