BELLFLOWER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Office of the Superintendent

November 17, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Bellflower Unified School District is pleased to announce that we will begin using the Verkada Visitor Management System in all of our schools to strengthen campus safety for students and staff. Part of keeping students and staff safe is knowing who is on our campuses at all times. The Verkada system will better allow us to screen visitors in our schools and provide us with a safer environment for our students and staff.

Upon entering a district building, visitors will be asked to present an ID such as a Driver's License or Consulate Card, which can either be scanned or manually entered into the system. Visitors without an ID should speak to office staff. Providing more information will reduce the chances of a false match. A false match is when the system falsely associates you with a known offender (e.g. you share the same name).

The Verkada system checks the visitor's name and date of birth for comparison with the national registered sex offender database. Once entry is approved, Verkada will issue a badge that identifies the visitor, the date, and the purpose of their visit. A visitor's badge will not be necessary for those who visit our schools simply to drop off an item in the office or pick up paperwork in the front office.

In addition to the visitor management system, we are also researching the possibility of adding a "buzz-in" system at each site. At this time, we are able to launch the visitor management system after the Thanksgiving Break and will keep the community updated regarding the addition of a "buzz-in" system for school offices in the future.

The safety of our students is our highest priority and the Verkada Visitor Management System allows us to quickly identify those that may present a danger to our students. Thank you in advance for your understanding and your support in enhancing the safety protocols in our BUSD schools.

For questions about the Verkada Visitor Management System, please refer to the "Verkada Frequently Asked Questions" fact sheet attached. The information is also available on the District's Web Page. For site specific questions, please contact your child's school administration office directly.

Ben Drati,Ed.D
Superintendent