



West Brunswick High School

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Scott Dalton

Principal

January 29, 2025

WBHS Families,

We are excited to share an important update related to the collaboration between Brunswick County Schools and West Brunswick High School to implement a new safety and security initiative in BCS.

At Brunswick County Schools and West Brunswick High School, the safety and security of our students, staff, and visitors remain our highest priority. To further enhance the safety of our school environments, we are working together to implement several key initiatives. These include the installation of advanced weapons detection systems, improvement of visitor management protocols, introduction of anonymous reporting systems, and strengthened partnerships with local law enforcement to support the role of School Resource Officers (SROs).

As part of this effort, West Brunswick High School will serve as the pilot site for the OPENGATE Weapons Detection System. The selection of West Brunswick High School for this initiative was based on the size of the student population and the number of access points to the building.

As we prepare to pilot this new system, we would like to share some important details:

- During the testing of the Weapons Detection System, portable and non-intrusive OPENGATE screeners will be used in designated areas of the buildings, as well as at a building entry point.
- A random classroom screening will take place on Thursday, January 30, 2025. The OPENGATE screeners will be placed at the entryway of a classroom to screen students. OPENGATE screeners can also detect vapes and other contraband and will be used for spot checks, as needed.
- The test of the OPENGATE screeners during morning arrival will take place on Friday, January 31, 2025. During this morning screening, OPENGATE systems will be stationed to screen students as they enter West Brunswick High School. Students will need to remove their Chromebooks from their bookbags as well as anything else that the screeners may detect (ex: umbrellas, eyeglass cases, three-ring binders).
- Each OPENGATE system will be managed by two to three school personnel and School Resource Officers to ensure an efficient screening process.

It is important to note that these measures are not in response to any previous issues at WBHS, but rather a part of ongoing efforts at BCS and WBHS to continue our work together to enhance school safety and create a secure environment for students, staff, and visitors. Families can expect a smooth and efficient process as the new security systems are piloted at West Brunswick High School.

We are excited about the opportunity to continue to work together with all stakeholders to promote a school environment that is safe, secure, and conducive to the well-being, success, and growth of our students!

Trojan Pride!