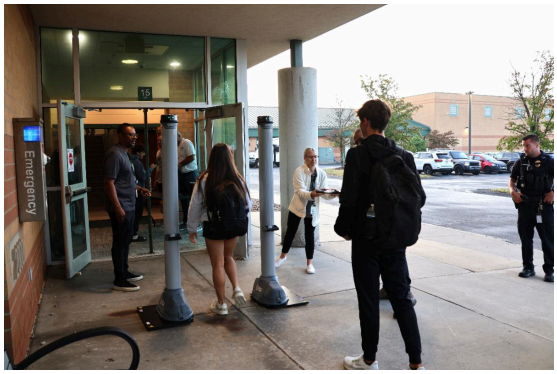
**Pine-Richland School District**

Focused on Learning for Every Student Every Day

# Introducing the OpenGate Metal Detector System

Dear Pine-Richland Families,

In September, we introduced another security feature to further enhance school safety. The OpenGate Metal Detector System will be used to screen individuals for prohibited items in a way that is designed to be quick and non-intrusive.




Since then, we have worked with staff and students using the metal detectors at all six schools during arrival.

**Although not planned for daily use**, building and district administrators will collaborate with the safety committee to determine when and where the units will be deployed, consistent with applicable **board policy**, in order to further enhance our existing security measures.

## Upcoming OpenGate Training

> **The OpenGate system will be deployed on Thursday, February 5, for the Girls' Basketball game**. All spectators will be screened upon entry to the building. Visitors should always be mindful of items they bring onto school property. Several staff members will be on-site to guide our spectators through the OpenGate system.
>
> This is an important step in preparing our staff to use this new technology to its full potential to promote student and staff safety. Use of the system beyond this training date may or may not be communicated in advance.

While our safety and security protocols are designed to keep the students and community safe, we recognize that individuals will respond differently and feel differently to these measures. In cases where families need support talking with their child about violence, we recommend the following resources:
**Talking to Children About Violence** (PDF)**,** **Addressing Grief in Children** (PDF) and **When Grief and Loss Hit Close to Home** (PDF).

As always, if you or your child(ren) have any information related to any safety matter, please contact the Northern Regional Police Department at 724-625-3157 or dial 911 if there is an immediate concern, use the **Safe2Say Something website** or app to make an anonymous report, or reach out to building or district administrators for guidance and support.

Parents and guardians can also refer to **district security resources** and **learn more about what to expect with the metal detectors** on our website.

We are proud to partner with you as part of our commitment to keeping our schools safe. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Pine-Richland School District

Pine-Richland Website

Pine-Richland School District | 702 Warrendale Road | Gibsonia, PA 15044 US

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