

What changes can we expect when we return?

Our Operations and Safety and Security Teams have introduced safety and security adjustments aimed at increasing confidence of all staff and students.

They include but are not limited to:

- Our goal is to have seven (7) officers assigned. But, starting off we will have a total of eight (8) security officers on site until more door repairs are made.
- Three (3) of the eight will be armed. One armed officer will be eventually removed.
- Our mobile units and the St. Louis Metropolitan Police will be visible in their patrol of the school and neighborhood.
- Replaced more than 160 interior doors and have plans to replace exterior doors which are presently on backorder.
- Installed additional cameras throughout the campus.
- We will continue to equip exterior doors to alarm for exits or intrusions.
- The Board has championed and approved a real-time notification system that alerts us to any 911 calls in the vicinity of our schools. The 911RTA subscription service is a partnership with the **Regional Justice Information System (REJIS) and SirenGPS, Inc.** The 911RTA enables us to take immediate safety and security precautions as needed.
- Window replacements, underway for the past few months, have been completed.
- We will host modified intruder drills in conjunction with staff from the Office of Student Services who will advise us on trauma and triggers.
- We will reinstitute training the third week in January because training is what helped us on October 24. We must make sure all of our systems are working.

Will our school start times remain the same?

- No, CVPA's normal schedule was 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. On the advice of counselors and mental health experts, we want to ease our students into school on an abbreviated schedule. For the first two weeks, our start time will remain 7 a.m. but, we will end at 11 a.m. *(We recognize that most students are ready to return but, we are sensitive to those who are not. The abbreviated schedule will help increase their comfort level.)* Thanks to the

abbreviated schedule teachers, counselors and all staff will be able to be available to meet with students during office hours.

- Breakfast and Lunch will be served.

What if I want to remain virtual?

- We would love to see you but only when you are ready. Students who are virtual now, will be able stay virtual. Just log into your classes through Microsoft Teams. (Please give us grace as we navigate in-person and virtual teaching.)

Are we doing these things because we did not have enough security?

- No, we had all systems in place October 24 and had recently completed intruder drills. We are making these changes because we must always look for ways, equipment, and products, to help us maintain safe and healthy school environments. Most of these safety and security upgrades that were a part of our Prop S bond issue which passed in August.

Is there any pattern to suggest that we could have this happen again?

- No, we have no reason to believe that CVPA would experience this type of event again. However, there have been patterns to suggest that now that there has been a shooting in Missouri, more are likely to follow so we must stay up to date with our safety protocols and updates. Please understand that experts agree that schools are the safety places for children.

Can you remove the cages around the windows for easy exit?

- While we are looking for alternatives, it would not be prudent for us to remove those first- floor window barriers which are designed to ensure that no one can enter our buildings at times when it is not occupied.

Will there be bus service for everyone?

- I am pleased to report that all students, districtwide have been routed into the system. CVPA bus riders will be notified of their newly assigned routes.

When will construction be over?

- Our construction teams are working throughout the week and into the weekend in order to be ready to receive students on Monday, January 9. We are working floor-by-floor to complete and clean classrooms which

means that we must apologize for inconveniencing teachers who do not yet have complete access to their classrooms. *It is our hope to create a new look and feel to our school – a welcoming environment for staff and students.*



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