

## Enhanced Visitor Safeguards Being Implemented

NCMS is pleased to announce that we just began using the Raptor Visitor Mgt. System to enhance the district's program of campus safety for students and faculty. Part of keeping everyone safe is knowing who's in our building at all times, and the Raptor system allows us to do that. Raptor allows us to track visitors, contractors, volunteers and any other guests in our schools and provides us with a safer environment for our students and staff.

Upon entering our school building, visitors are asked to present a valid state-issued ID which will be scanned into the system. The Raptor system checks to ensure that registered sexual offenders are not entering our school. The Raptor system only scans a visitor's name, date of birth and photo for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders. Additional visitor data from the driver's license is not gathered, nor is the system connected to any other system such as the BMV. Thus, no other info on an ID is scanned by the system and is not accessible to any of the users. Once entry is approved, Raptor issues a badge that identifies the visitor, the date, and the purpose of his/her visit. The system is now fully operational.

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 event a person does not have an ID, he/she can still gain access to the school but will be escorted by a school staff member or School Resource Officer (SRO). Recent stats reveal there are over 700,000 registered sex offenders in the U.S. Until the advent of systems such as Raptor, schools and similar organizations have had no way to screen for such individuals.

Patrons must not only have government-issued I.D. to go beyond our front office, they must also be buzzed into our main school hallway after providing said I.D. Further safeguards will be added to other schools in our corporation this year. (The same provision listed in the above paragraph for those without an ID still applies.)