

## Alton Community Unit School District #11

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## **CHANGES IN ENTRANCE PROCEDURES AT EVENTS**

Over the course of the first semester, staff members across all schools trained on the use of our new Open Gate Systems (concealed weapons detection systems) and additional school entrance procedures for students and visitors. Open Gate Systems are universally utilized at every school.

Now that staff are trained and proficiently using the systems, we will also begin utilizing these additional safety measures at school events open to the general public. This includes, but is not limited to, athletic competitions, musical/theater events and others. As a result, please note the following updated procedures and information for families and guests:

- \*Beginning January 3, 2024, Open Gate Systems will be utilized at guest entrances for events hosted at schools that are open to the general public.
- \*Students are not allowed to bring bags of any kind to school events (outside of the regular school day) unless previous permission has been granted.
- \*Adult guests bringing bags (purses, camera bags, diaper bags, other) will be subject to screenings and secondary bag searches. It is HIGHLY recommended adults avoid bringing bags of any kind to events unless absolutely necessary.
- \*Should the Open Gate System detect an item (flagging an alert) that is on the individual's person, a secondary screening and scan will be conducted to determine what is causing the alert before entry is permitted.

The safety of our students, staff and guests is our first and most important priority. Thank you for reviewing this information and we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events!