

Safe Welcome Program at J W Gerth

Begins September 2, 2014.

What does this mean for the community and the students in the school?

All doors will be locked all day, every day. This includes the doors to the YMCA Child Care. Each of the portables will have an access card, which will allow students and teachers to enter the school when necessary.

What happens when I arrive at the school during the day?

If you need to come into the school for any reason, you will need to use the **Main Entry**. There are **2 buttons** there on the wall.

School Business: Please press the first “MAIN OFFICE” button and wait for the office staff to reply.

YMCA Childcare business: Please press the second “YMCA” button and wait for the Y staff to reply.

LATE Arrivals: At JWG we have an extremely large number of late arrivals each day and with this new system, it is very important that you arrive before the bell, so your child can come in the appropriate doors with their classes. This will prevent you and your child having to wait for someone to let you in. If you are late, please be sure to accompany your child to the doors and bring them into the office to sign-in.



What is the Safe Welcome Program?

Provincial Government Enhanced Security Measures for Elementary Schools Requirement.

In December 2012 the Provincial Government announced its intention to enhance security measures in elementary schools across Ontario. The Safe Welcome initiative involves the locking of all doors in elementary schools.

Implementation of this initiative will occur throughout the 2013-2014 school year at elementary schools in the Waterloo Region District School Board. All visitors (parents; vendors; central Board staff) to elementary schools will access the main doors to the school using an intercom system. The system will integrate the needs of before/after school programs, child care locations and those sites with portables.

It is recognized that having all school doors locked will be new for our school community. Our students, parents and staff will need to collaboratively work together as this initiative is implemented at our school.

