

January 14, 2013

Due to recent events across the nation, we have been having a lot of conversation about safety and security in all Jessamine County Schools, including Brookside. We have discussed this as administrators, with the faculty/staff, and our SBDM Council. We consider the safety of our children to be our number one priority, so these have been very serious conversations.

Our safety and security committee has agreed upon making necessary changes at BES in order to keep our children as safe as possible. While our goal is to be a warm and inviting school to our families and visitors, we realize that some procedures we had in place made our students, faculty, and staff vulnerable to outside forces. Please understand that the safety measures listed here are being put in place to keep our students safe throughout the school day. We are imploring for your help and assistance in enforcing these safety measures.

New safety/security measures:

- **Entry/Exit Doors**- ALL entry/exit doors will be locked throughout the day EXCEPT for one of the front doors leading into our lobby.
- **Family Resource Center/Gym Doors**- These doors will remain locked throughout the day, so we will NO LONGER allow access into the building through these doors in the morning before school.
- **Sign-in for visitors**- We will continue to require ALL visitors to sign in at the front desk in our main office and acquire a visitor's sticker before going into the building. If you are dropping something off for your child (cupcakes, a folder, etc...), you will be asked to leave the item(s) in the office and the student will be called to pick it up. If you are visiting for lunch, you will be asked to sign in and wait in the office until your student comes to the office to pick you up.
- **Volunteers**- We greatly value and appreciate our volunteers! If you are volunteering in any capacity, you will be required to sign in at the front desk in our main office and acquire a BES lanyard to wear during your visit. Volunteer time must be scheduled ahead of time with the teacher. We have taught our students that every adult in our building should be wearing a lanyard or a visitor's sticker. This assures our students/staff that the adult belongs in our building.
- **Car riders**- If you are picking up a car rider in the afternoon, we ask that you wait in the car line and display your pink car rider pick up card. If you would rather, you may park and come into the office to sign out your student. Adults will no longer be able to wait in the lobby during dismissal, and we will NO LONGER release students to adults outside in the car rider waiting area.

We realize that some of these measures may be inconvenient for the adults involved, but they are all meant to help protect your child. When we analyzed our current safety measures, we recognized several deficits and vulnerable areas. These new safety/security measures are being put in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. Thank you for understanding and for supporting our efforts. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school at 887-2012.

Respectfully,
JonAnn Horn