

Together as partners, let's get 2018-19 off to a **SAFE START** with these helpful tips

Entry Procedures at Our Schools

Visiting School – District 64 is dedicated to maintaining a safe school environment. All visitors, including parents/guardians and volunteers, entering District 64 schools must check in directly at the office by presenting a driver's license or state ID to be run through a visitor management system, prior to receiving a visitor name badge. No exceptions will be made. The visitor name badge must be worn at all times while in the building and returned to the office on departure.



Required for entry

Fundamentals of Safety

As safe as our community is, there are potential dangers to children. Please help us re-focus attention on the fundamentals this year.

- **Near School** – Traffic congestion is an ongoing, serious safety challenge. For students who do not ride the bus, we strongly encourage walking/biking or ask you to consider car-pooling. Please review the safety guidelines in the Student-Parent Handbook, especially regarding traffic flow and safe walking/biking routes. Remember: drivers in school zones are prohibited from using cell phones (except in voice-activated mode).
- **In School** – When students feel physically and emotionally safe, they are better able to focus on learning. During the first month of school and throughout the year as needed, we teach students how to prepare and be alert for unexpected situations. We regularly practice a variety of drills with students. The District also has a comprehensive Crisis Plan developed with local authorities.
- **In the Community** – Be watchful of your child and all children every day, not only when a threatening situation arises. Tell your child to report any suspicious activities or persons to you, their teachers, principal or trusted adults. Contact local police immediately if you feel it is warranted; otherwise, please notify your school principal. Regularly check these resources for updates about individuals locally: Illinois State Police sex offender database (www.isp.state.il.us/sor) and the Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry (www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo).

Keeping Home & School Connected

Maintaining open communication between home and school is essential throughout the year. Here are some ways to stay in touch:

- **Website** – The user-friendly District 64 website (<http://www.d64.org>) and school sites offer information on school essentials, teacher contacts, student learning focus areas, health tips and much more. The websites adapt automatically for easy viewing on mobile phones, too!
- **Emergency Phone System** – In an emergency or for school closings, our automated phone system is the primary means of communication. You will receive a recorded message to the phone numbers you provided during registration as your official contact numbers. Call the office with changes during the year.
- **Email Updates** – Important messages and school newsletters are emailed regularly to the addresses you provided. Please call the office with updates or changes during the year.
- **District 64 eNews** – All District 64 families receive this emailed newsletter periodically with the latest from District 64, including updates on student learning and academics, important happenings, and Board of Education meeting notes.
- **Student-Parent Handbook** – The annual Handbook is the place to go for day-to-day information, calendars, procedures and guidelines relevant to all families. [Bookmark or download a copy](#), so it's at your fingertips for quick reference during the year ahead.