



Astoria School District No. 1C

Craig Hoppes, *Superintendent*
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Dear Parents:

One of the core values of the Astoria School District is that our schools will be a safe and healthy place for students to learn. As a school district, we continue to evaluate school safety to make sure that students and district staff are able to come to school to learn and work.

The school district has made a decision to lock all doors at Astor Elementary, Lewis and Clark Elementary and Astoria Middle School once school begins each day. This means, after school begins each day, parents or visitors who come to those three schools must ring a bell outside the front door to be allowed in. Office staff in each of those schools will be able to see visitors through a camera system and will electronically unlock the doors once the person is recognized and the visitor verbalizes a need to be inside the building. Below is a schedule for each of the schools door locking and opening times:

School	School Starting Time	Doors to be Locked	School Ending Time	Front Door to be Unlocked
Astor	8:20 am	8:45 am	2:30 pm	2:15 pm
Lewis and Clark	8:00 am	8:25 am	2:50 pm	2:35 pm
Astoria Middle School	8:00 am	8:25 am	3:05 pm	3:05 pm

Please note during early release on Thursdays the school ending time and front door to be unlocked will occur an hour earlier.


By locking the doors throughout the school day, we can assure that each school building will only contain people who have a need to be there. This safety measure is one assurance that our schools will be safer and more secure.

We will need help from parents with this new safety measure. To monitor the front entrance of the school will be a new responsibility for office staff. Please be patient with office staff as they may not always be close to the camera system; they will respond to the door as soon as they are able. Each school is also asking that parents refrain from picking their student up from school until the scheduled time the front door is to be unlocked.

Please note, at this time this security system will not be in place at Astoria High School. This type of system is not feasible at the high school based on the number of entrances within the school. The District will continue to look at other security measures for Astoria High School.

The safety of students and staff is very important to Astoria School District. We will continue to evaluate varying safety measures within the district to ensure the safety of students and district staff.

Sincerely,



Craig Hoppes
Superintendent
Astoria School District