



Commerence Independent School District POLICE DEPARTMENT

While not every crisis or emergency can be predicted, safety and security are of the utmost importance at Commerence ISD. Our District relies on numerous measures and protocols to promote security, and ensure the safest possible environment in our schools.

- Students and staff are trained and practice Standard Response Protocol (SRP). SRP includes 4 specific actions that can be performed in the event of any threat or incident on or near campus: LOCKDOWN, LOCKOUT, EVACUATE, and SHELTER. These responses are taught and practiced regularly throughout the year in the form of drills. Additionally, all CISD staff undergo mandatory CRASE (Civilian Response to an Active Shooter Event) training annually.
- Commerence ISD has a full-time Police Department. CISD PD Officers are present in our school buildings throughout the day, and provide security at afterschool functions. Officer Dave Contreras is full-time at Commerence High School, and Chief Joe Venable provides police presence at the other 3 campuses. Additionally, CISD PD has acquired a narcotics detection canine, “K9 Coco”, who visits and performs searches in all CISD buildings.
- During the school day, visitor entry at all campuses is limited to the front/main entrance of the building. Visitors must buzz-in to enter our buildings. All exterior doors remain locked, and students and staff are instructed never to open a door to allow someone to enter.
- Commerence Middle School, A.C. Williams, and Commerence Elementary School utilize the Raptor Visitor Management System, which requires all visitors with appropriate business to undergo screening prior to gaining access to the building. (CHS will implement the Raptor system soon)
- All staff and visitors must wear prominently displayed district-issued identification or visitor badges.
- Surveillance cameras monitor activity inside and outside all Commerence ISD buildings.
- Safety and security audits are performed at CISD schools throughout the year.
- CISD Police Department maintains a close working relationship with Commerence Police Department and the A&M Commerence UPD; and frequently works together with these departments to investigate potential concerns.
- CISD has additional measures and protocols in place to protect campuses that are only shared with specific personnel, and not made public for security reasons.

Any security measures and protocols, when observed diligently, help to maintain secure buildings and promote safety; however, the most valuable tool we have in protecting lives is the human element. CISD strongly urges families to remind their children how important it is to immediately report any safety concern, prohibited item, safety related threats or rumors, threatening online activity, and/or any suspicious behavior they observe.

Families with suggestions, questions, or concerns are encouraged to contact their campus principal.



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