

Northwestern Local Schools



Raptor Visitor Management System Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Raptor System?

Raptor is a visitor management system that enhances school security by reading a visitor's driver's license (or other approved state issued ID), comparing information to a sex offender database to alert school administrators and local police if a match is found. Once cleared through the system, a visitor badge is produced that includes a photo, name of the visitor, date & time.

How does Raptor work?

Raptor compares state-issued ID information to a database that contains registered sex offenders from 50 states. In the event of a match, Raptor alerts designated school officials.

What is the purpose of the Raptor system?

Raptor helps our schools keep unwanted visitors out and track visitors that have been allowed in. By proactively alerting personnel to certain potential threats, Raptor allows school administrators and law enforcement personnel to take appropriate steps to keep the students, employees, and visitors safe. For valid visitors, the system also prints visitor badges that include the visitor's name, photo, date, and destination. Those badges enable personnel within the building to quickly determine if visitors are in areas where they should, or should not be

Why is Northwestern Schools using this system?

The safety of our students is our highest priority. Raptor will provide a consistent system to track visitors and volunteers while keeping away people who present a danger to students. The system quickly prints visitor badges that include a photo, the name of the visitor, time and date.

Does the School/District have the right to require visitors, even parents, to produce identification before entering the school?

Yes. School officials need to know who is in the building and why they are there; particularly when a student is involved (e.g. early pickup), school officials need to be able to confirm that an individual has the authority to have access to the student. Every person entering the building will be scanned.

What types of IDs will work in Raptor?

The scanner is able to scan all state licenses, state identification cards, concealed handgun licenses, consular ID cards, green cards, active military cards, and passport card (not the full passport). It does not officially scan other countries' IDs.

What other information is the school taking from driver's licenses?

Raptor is only scanning the visitor's name, date of birth and photo for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders and any private alerts at the school. Additional visitor data will not be gathered and no data will be shared with any outside company or organization.

What does a visitor do if he/she doesn't have a government issued ID?

Visitors without a government issued ID will be escorted at all times while in the building.

Is an ID card scan necessary each time a person comes in the building?

No. After the first scanning, the Raptor operator would simply find the visitor's name in the system (first or last name look-up) and use the record of the previously-scanned ID to sign the visitor in and print a visitor's badge. This makes check in much easier after the initial visit.

If a visitor is visiting both buildings will he/she need to be scanned in each building?

Yes. The systems in each building are not linked.

Will volunteers have to be scanned into the Raptor System?

Volunteers must follow the same procedures as any visitor to a building. Identity must be verified with an acceptable form of identification (i.e. Driver's License or State ID)

What is the checkout process for Visitors leaving the building?

The checkout process doesn't involve scanning the card again. The operator would simply find the name of the person who is signing out and click a 'sign out' button. This provides a record of entry and departure and time on any campus. The Raptor badge should be returned to the operator and destroyed.

What if a 'hit' on the system occurs? What is the protocol?

The staff member scanning the I.D. will contact a member of administration immediately to confirm that the information is correct. No identified visitor with a positive 'hit' will be permitted in the building without an escort. The visitor will be escorted at all times while in the building.

Will the Raptor System be used for after school activities?

Northwestern Elementary

No, the system will only be used during normal school hours, Monday through Friday.

Northwestern Junior/Senior High School

No, the system will only be used during normal school hours, Monday through Friday.