

Security Update

July 6, 2023

Weapon Detectors

The Augusta County Public School (ACPS) Board voted to approve the plan to purchase and implement weapon detectors.

ACPS will work on training for staff for the use of the weapons detection system to screen students and visitors.

Enhance current security measures that are already in place.

ACPS is always evaluating our safety procedures.



Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Smith and his law enforcement team in conjunction with the School Safety Committee support this additional security measure.

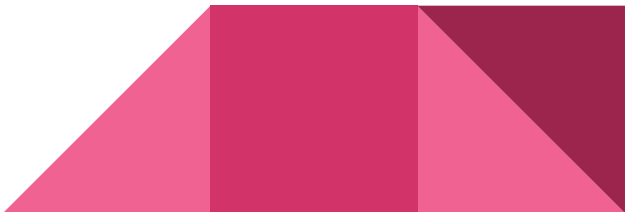
Sheriff Smith and his team along with School Board members, Superintendent Bond and other ACPS central office staff were very impressed with the presentation of the weapon detectors.

Flow for entrance into a school building or school event

Scanning for potential harmful weapons



Advantages of the Detectors

- ❑ **Fast, Automatic & Unprecedented Screening**
 - ❑ **No Divesting** of Backpacks, Purses, Keys, Phones or water containers
 - ❑ **Extreme** Transit Flow with **Near Zero** Nuisance Alarms
 - ❑ **Quick to Setup & Install** – Weighs only 25 lbs. with less than one minute setup time
 - ❑ **Indoor** and **Outdoor** Operations
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The weapon detectors are a walk-through detection system, composed of two freestanding mobile pillars. They can be used at a variety of entrances or security checkpoint locations, including sporting events, graduations, or school dances.








Operation and Procedure

The weapon detection systems will be in place in some of the division's middle and high schools at the beginning of the 2023-24 school year.

Staff will begin training on them before the actual implementation.

Units will be placed in the schools with an organized schedule for high and middle schools.

While we do not presently have enough detectors to cover all of our schools, ACPS will utilize them first at some of the middle and high schools and progressively move through the school division to have them at each middle and high school at various times of the school year or as needed if a situation deems necessary.



Operation and Procedure


ACPS fully understands that the first couple of days of implementation may need edits to the procedures used from the training.

Time will allow the students and visitors to understand the process, as administrators and staff work through any needed changes.

Welcome environment while also providing proactive safety measures for everyone

We ask for everyone's patience during the implementation of this additional safety measure.

ACPS certainly wants to make sure that we're fostering a school climate where everyone takes school safety responsibly, where there is discipline and consequences when students are making infractions that are safety-related, and that we're doing the wrap-around support for prevention with mental health as well.



More Information

Dr. Bond and staff will provide additional information to our building staff, parents, and students as we move toward the start of the school year.

Students and teachers have a fundamental right to feel and be safe in the classroom. Proactive weapon detectors are helping to keep schools safe allowing school divisions to bring the focus back to education. ACPS strives to place learning, development and wellbeing of children at the forefront of each school day.

