



**NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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August 10, 2015

Dear Newtown Public School Parents and Staff,

The Newtown Public Schools is pleased to announce that we will begin using the Raptor Visitor Management System in all our schools at the start of the 2015-2016 school year. Raptor is a web-based software application that has been developed with the purpose of aiding educational facilities in tracking their visitors, students and faculty. Raptor not only provides an effective, efficient method for tracking, but also goes beyond conventional applications by utilizing available public databases to help control campus security. Raptor is capable of replacing most paper-based logs. It will allow schools and facilities to produce visitor badges, monitor volunteer hours, and electronically check all visitors against registered sexual offender databases. The overall goal is to better control access to all Newtown Public Schools; thus providing enhanced protection for our students and staff.

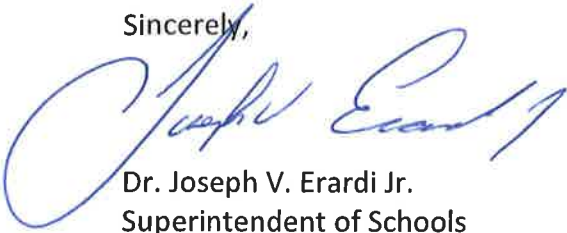
Previously, visitors were asked to sign in at the security desk, and obtain a generic visitor's badge upon entering our schools. Using the new Raptor technology, visitors will continue to be directed to the security desk upon entry, but will now be asked to present government-issued identification, such as a driver's license or state identification card. The ID will be passed through a scanner, which will provide security personnel with the name and date of birth of the visitor. In just a few seconds, a visitor's badge can be printed with a name, photograph, date, time, and destination or purpose for the visit. It is important to note that the Raptor system only scans the visitor's name, date of birth, and photograph for comparison with a national database of register sex offenders. Additional information from the visitor's ID card is not gathered, nor is the system connected to any other system such as the Department of Motor Vehicles. Therefore, any other information connected to the ID card is not part of the system and is not accessible to any of the users.

If you are interested in learning more about this visitor management system, please visit the Raptor Technologies website at www.raptorware.com. Currently the Raptor Visitor System is being used in Connecticut in the New Britain and New Fairfield School Districts, and is being installed now in the New Milford schools.

The safety of our students and staff is our highest priority. District Administration will continually refine this new procedure throughout the upcoming school year, and we will make adjustments as needed. Your patience is appreciated while we do all that we can to make our schools welcoming places for our community, while maintaining a safe and secure environment for our students.

If you have any questions about this new visitor management system, please contact our Director of Security, Mark Pompano, at (203) 270-6121. Your support of this new security feature is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joseph V. Erardi Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Joseph V. Erardi Jr.
Superintendent of Schools