



OLENTANGY ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL

2840 East Orange Road
Lewis Center, OH 43035

February 11, 2010

Dear OOHS families,

Olentangy Local Schools cares about its students and is continually looking for ways to ensure that its schools remain safe learning environments. To that end, the district is partnering with the Delaware County Sheriff's Office to conduct periodic, random walkthroughs of all three of our high school buildings and parking lots using a canine team. The initial round of walkthroughs will begin in the coming weeks.

Please understand that this is a preventative measure. **The district is launching this proactive initiative in order to ensure that our schools remain safe learning environments, not in response to any perceived increase in disruptive or dangerous behavior.**

The searches will be conducted by deputies from the Delaware County Sheriff's Office working in conjunction with members of other central Ohio law enforcement agencies. The deputies and/or officers will guide the canines through parking lots and down rows of lockers. It is important to note that these search teams will not open cars or lockers.

If a dog alerts on a locker, a school employee will conduct the search of that locker and one locker on either side. This is done because air ventilation systems cause scents to "drift" to another area from where the actual scent originates. In the case of an alert to a vehicle in the parking lot, the student will be called to the office to open the vehicle so that a school employee may conduct the search.

These walkthroughs are intended to be brief. They will be conducted while students are in class and will pose little disruption to the school day.

This initiative is in keeping with Olentangy's historical commitment to maintaining safe school environments. For more information on Board of Education Policy regarding searches, please refer to the student handbook or go online to www.olentangy.k12.oh.us/district/board/policy/handbooks/high/24atod.html.

Thank you for your cooperation as we launch this initiative to enhance student safety. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (740) 657-5100 or send me an e-mail at todd_meyer@olentangy.k12.oh.us.

Sincerely,

Todd Meyer
Principal, Olentangy Orange High School