

ARMA DEI ACADEMY

EDUCATING TO GLORIFY GOD

September 21, 2017

Dear Parents,

A core commitment at Arma Dei Academy is fostering a rich partnership with parents, working together to teach students to love learning and to grow in Godliness. One of the many exciting ways this partnership is realized is through the parent volunteers who tirelessly give their time and service to help support Arma Dei. Last year our parent community gave over 4,000(!) hours of volunteer service to Arma Dei. Incredible! This is a true blessing, and already there have been hundreds of hours of volunteer service logged this year.

As you can imagine, this means we frequently have parents and other visitors entering and leaving the building, and this presents several challenges. As our community grows, it's increasingly challenging for teachers to know every name and face in our community. This makes it difficult to know when to redirect a visitor, such as when a visitor intending to enter Living Way Fellowship comes in through the wrong doors, or a visitor is otherwise out of place.

Additionally, one of our most important responsibilities is keeping students safe throughout the day. This includes spiritual safety, emotional safety, and physical safety. *In order to help ensure we know who is in our building throughout the school day, we are rolling out Raptor Technologies, a new system for tracking visitors and volunteers who are in the building.*

Beginning Monday, all visitors will be asked to provide a government-issued ID (such as a Driver's License), which will be scanned at the front desk in order to generate a Visitor or Volunteer name badge. The name badge will include the picture from your ID, your name, date, time, and destination. Additionally, every visitor's name and ID are processed through Raptor Security, which checks visitors against each state's sex-offender databases. Rest assured, no record of your ID is kept—just the picture, name, and date of birth. Raptor is an industry leader in “instant” security checks at private and public schools across the country, and I'm excited to bring this system online at Arma Dei.

There are a number of benefits to these new procedures that come to mind.

- **Peace of Mind.** You'll know there is an easy way for us to identify visitors in the building that haven't checked in at the front desk.
- **Streamlined Volunteer Tracking.** Raptor will be our new Volunteer Management Platform, allowing automatic logging of hours when volunteers sign in. Stay tuned for more info about getting signed up as a volunteer through Raptor (we will no longer be using Volgistics).
- **Name Recognition.** Have you ever been volunteering with another parent and been unable to remember their name? With name tags, you'll get that quick memory jog you need.

As per current school policy, all school visitors will continue to check in at the front desk, and Mrs. Pederson will walk you through the new procedures. Please note, if you are simply dropping off a lunch, or picking up a student, you will not need to get a name badge.

As ever—

committed to equipping students to love purposefully and intelligently in service to God and others.

Stephen R. Taylor
Head of School

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