

**NEW UTRECHT HIGH SCHOOL**

Ms. Maureen A. Goldfarb

1601 80<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn, NY 11214

(718) 232-2500 (voice)

(718) 259-5526 (fax)

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are committed to provide a safe, secure learning environment for all students in our school. As part of the safety initiative for New York City Schools, The Mayor's Office has announced that on some days, students will be asked to go through metal scanning machines similar to those airline passengers go through for the purpose of keeping our schools' safe. These scanning devices will identify contraband that is prohibited in our school building thereby ensuring everyone's safety.

As you know, there are items that students are prohibited from bringing to school. These items include: blades, knives, other sharp metal instruments, cell phones, beepers, I Pods, MP3 players, etc. Students who bring these items to school are subject to disciplinary measures.

Both Regulations are available on the Department of Education's Website  
<http://www.nycenet.edu/Administration/ChancellorsRegulations/default.htm>.

The scanning machines will not be at our school every day, but students must be prepared every day to successfully pass through scanners. Students must have their school photo I.D. and program card ready and visible before entering the building. Student backpacks, as well as all metal objects (keys, belts, coins, jewelry, etc); will go through the scanner as well. It is recommended that all students place these I objects in their backpack before reaching the scanner. This will expedite the entire process. Students who are not properly prepared for scanning may be required to go through a second, hand-held scan; this will delay their arrival to class.

We hope that students will be attentive and follow instructions from all School Safety Agents and be sensitive to other students waiting to be scanned to enter the building. Parent support is needed in making this new safety measure successful. Please discuss these safety procedures with your child. They must leave prohibited items at home, go quickly through scanning, and enter the building on time in the morning. Your child's safety is your number one concern as well as ours. We are doing everything possible to ensure that all students have a safe learning environment in which they can achieve their full potential.

These days we often hear that added security measures are "a sign of the times." In our school, however, I see this additional security resource as a positive measure to prevent our students and staff from being put into a potentially unsafe situation. We must all commit to ensuring the safety of everyone in our community.

If you have questions regarding the policies and procedures on scanning, please do not hesitate to call us.

I thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Ms. Maureen A. Goldfarb  
Principal