

## Auburn Schools To Use Alert System

### **Clear Channel Broadcasting.**

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Auburn, New York (WSYR-TV) - If something is happening in the Auburn City School District parents are going to be finding out quickly. The school district is about to launch a system to send alerts to landline and cell phones along with e-mail.

These days a lot of kids communicate instantly with each other by text, e-mail, or cell phone. Now the district is jumping on this technology bandwagon.

Auburn Technology Coordinator Sandy Wagner says, "The world we live in today, obviously we have to be able to contact parents of our kids as quickly as possible in the event of any kind of emergency situation."

School Messenger is designed to notify parents by cell, landline or e-mail. The alert can be sent from any computer or even from a cell phone. It can use a previously recorded message or a new one.

"The system will call you on your cell phone and say okay record your message now so it doesn't matter what kind of computer if it has a microphone or not."

The system allows the district to track who got the information and who didn't. The district says the flexibility of the system will allow it to be used in a variety of ways to get information out.

"Select what list you're going to call so we can set up different lists by building, by just faculty and staff."

Right now it's set up district wide but eventually the plan is to be able to take it down to even the classroom level so a teacher could send out a customized note to a parent about a certain event or other topic they need to get across to them."

"It will hopefully keep parents more in the loop of exactly what's happening."

The emergency alert will be ready immediately after Monday's test. Wagner says he'd like to have it plugged in to the attendance and food service systems by the end of this school year.

The Auburn School District is asking any parent or guardian who doesn't get a call Monday during the test to contact your child's school. Three other area districts are using school messenger. Westhill and Trumansburg are in the process of setting it up, South Seneca is fully set up with it.