

Centralia College to Test New Emergency Alert System

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Centralia College will test its new emergency alert systems on Wednesday.

At 10 a.m., the college will test its e2campus system, which provides text messages and other alerts to subscribed users and its on-campus computer network alert system.

At 10:30 a.m., the college will test an external siren system it's considering for the new TransAlta Commons Building. A large siren will be put on a lift at the construction site and a series of tones and voice alerts will be broadcast across campus. The test is estimated to take no more than 30 minutes.

"We're testing the sound penetration across campus to determine how well it works for Centralia College," Steve Ward, vice president of administrative services, said in a press release. "A siren system could be very helpful to alert students in an emergency, but we want to test the system to see if it reaches all areas of campus."

College staff stationed throughout campus will rate the different tones and alerts. The information will then be evaluated to determine if an exterior siren will work for the college.

"We want to be as prepared as possible in the event of an emergency," Ward said. "This testing will be invaluable as we evaluate how to make our campus as safe as possible."

To sign up to receive Centralia College emergency alerts, visit www.centralia.edu/admin/services/it/e2campusinst.html.