

## Killers' lockers another issue for Columbine

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Directly outside the library where 12 students were killed April 20, police have marked locker number 837 with the words "Klebold, empty." Down the hall is another blue locker, number 624, with the words "Harris, empty" written in black magic marker.

They're empty now. But what about next year?

"We haven't even addressed whether Harris's and Klebold's lockers will be reassigned yet," Columbine Principal Frank DeAngelis said.

The problem is paradoxical: If school officials give out the lockers next year, then the students who are assigned them may consider it insensitive, but if the lockers are not reassigned, then the school would risk making a "shrine" to the boys who killed 12 classmates and a beloved teacher.

DeAngelis said the issue would be addressed when administrators resume work in July. School officials also have not decided what to do with the 12 lockers used by the students killed in the worst school shooting in American history. The district Columbine lockers in limbo LOCKERS from Page 1A--> has said repeatedly that it does not want the school turned into a memorial.

"I didn't really know where their lockers were before (the shooting)," said Jennifer Doyle, who will be a senior next year.

Doyle was shot three times in the hand by Klebold, a boy she had known since her elementary school advanced placement class.

Steve Davis, spokesman for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, said there is no indication that Harris or Klebold stored any bombs or ammunition in their lockers.

"We don't have any indication of that," he said. "We don't have any witnesses telling us that occurred or happened." Next year's student body president, Mike Sheehan, said most students won't think it's a big deal to have one of the killer's locker.

"They might as well reassign them," Sheehan said. "They are just another locker."

After the shooting, a 1-inch indent from a bullet remained in Sheehan's locker. For some students, a locker is the only personal space they have. Many students went back to Columbine after the shooting to retrieve their

knickknacks, posters and photographs that made the small metal bins their own.

And students talk. They will know which lockers the killers had, Doyle said. Much like changing the look of the library, the question is over how officials can change lockers so students will not face another reminder of Harris and Klebold, another reminder of April 20.

"What can you do without a student knowing that this was their locker?" asked Nicole Nowlen. A recent transfer student, Nowlen had been at the school for only seven weeks before being shot nine times in the abdomen during the rampage.

"They will have to assign it to someone, even though they don't want to. People don't want any shrine to them. I personally couldn't have it," she said. "If you gave it to a freshman, that would be the only way that could be done." Parent Brian Rohrbough, whose son, Daniel, was killed outside the school, suggested that every locker be renumbered and painted as part of the renovation process.

"It shouldn't be a big deal next year," he said.