

October 6, 2010

Dear Middle School Parents/Guardians:

This letter contains changes for students who are bus riders and for parents who drop students off in the morning and pick up in the afternoon. Please read carefully.

For the past month, we have been monitoring the morning bus routes, in the hope that, as bus routes became more familiar to the drivers, some of the problems with early pickup and delivery to the middle school in the morning would even out. However, the 7:15 arrival is very early for a 7:45 school start. Although we have opened the school for our bus students, the time for many students is still too long. A second concern is the number of cars dropping off students in the lower parking lot. This continues to present problems as buses and cars compete for limited space. To address both of these concerns, I have been working with the superintendent, the high school administration, and transportation to develop a better, safer plan for student arrival and dismissal at the middle school. Beginning Monday, October 11, 2010, the following changes will be made:

- Morning bus drop off and afternoon pick up will occur on the high school side of the tunnel. Middle school students will be dropped off and picked up at the tunnel entrance. This area will be supervised by our district security officer. Middle school staff will supervise students as they exit the tunnel and enter the building.
- Students will be permitted in the building between bus arrival and the 7:35 dismissal to homeroom. This plan will shorten the wait time for students
- As an added benefit to this plan, middle school parent drop off and pick up will move to the middle school bus circle. This change will remove cars from the flow of the driveway and create a safe way for students to enter and leave the building. This should also ease the congestion in the front of the school and provide parents a safe place to wait for dismissal. Please remember that the bus circle is one way. You must enter at the far end of the bus circle. (Near the tunnel)
- Since the bus transfer times to our nonpublic schools are now established, we will also be reviewing our secondary bus schedule to determine if we can adjust morning pick up times any later. This will also shorten the morning wait time for students.

In addition to the bus changes, this is an update regarding the improvements to our cafeteria and gym. Painting in the gym is complete. Following clean-up this week, classes will return to the gym on October 15, 2010. Our new cafeteria equipment arrived last week and will be installed this week. Pending

inspection from the health department, we plan to be in full operation within the next two weeks. I know both students and staff are looking forward to the full Metz operation.

I thank you for your input and patience over the past few weeks.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Alice Snare
Principal