



Mount
Vernon
Schools

Successful Learners Strengthening Our Community

Jefferson Elementary School

September 17, 2018

Dear Eagle Parents,

At the Parent Club meeting last Thursday it was brought to my attention that there was frustration over the policy for student pick up and how the enhanced security locked doors at Jefferson work. The intent of this letter is to clear up that confusion.

We would like for all parents who drive a car to pick up your student to use **the car pick-up lane** on the east side of the building. The Car pick up lane is efficient and very safe due to the controlled nature of the area and the excellent work of Janis Anderson and Belinda Torseth. In about 16 minutes we are able to send approximately 200 kids safely home each afternoon. Parents have the added benefit of being able to get some time to themselves in their cars while they wait their turn to get the kids. (I know I appreciated that as parent when my kids were young!)

If you walk to school to pick up your child there are two places to pick up children after school. The preferred place is at car pick up on the east side of the building. The second option would be to wait outside the front door for your student to join you for the walk home. Students will come to you through the front doors as the rest of their class exits the building. By keeping adults and older siblings outside of the building it make the movement of kids safer, controlled and much less chaotic. This considerably reduces the chance of children taking the wrong transportation at the end of the day.

If you pick up a student early for appointments please do use the door buzzer to the right of the right door to communicate with the secretaries and get "buzzed in". This option is available at any time during the school day.

The doors are timed to be unlocked from 8:05 to 8:35 and again from 3:00 to 3:15 for parents to be able to easily access the campus and teachers at the beginning and end of the day. If you need to meet or have a meeting already scheduled with any school personnel please check in at the main office and then go to the meeting.

I know these changes are difficult and inconvenient to the "normal" way we have done things. It will take a while to adjust to our new normal. Please understand that it is our responsibility to keep all of our students safe at Jefferson. Our locked doors are a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Tim Newall

Principal - Jefferson Elementary

Tim Newall, Principal

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