

Jefferson Arrival and Dismissal Information

We are making some changes to the traffic patterns as part of our ongoing efforts to improve the safety of our parking lot for all students and drivers. Please read carefully, especially if your child will be driven to and from school this year.

Main entrance- Lord's Way

The main entrance from Washington Street, known as Lord's Way, will become 2 lanes. Cars that are lining up to drop off or pick up their children will stay to the LEFT. Buses and vans will stay to the RIGHT.

We will be putting signage in place to alert drivers to these new traffic patterns. It may not be in place by next Tuesday, the first day of school. If that is the case, the police department will have temporary signage in place and likely an officer present to direct vehicles and enforce the new traffic pattern, until the permanent signs are installed.

Change is hard. We will all get better with the new traffic flow with time, and your cooperation and patience is appreciated.

Arrival 8:15 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

If you are transporting your child to school, you will enter the car loop (around the main parking lot) to drop off. You will notice that a section of the curb is painted blue; this is the drop off zone. Once your car is in the drop off zone, your child should exit the vehicle using the door on the passenger side. At least 7-8 cars should have children exiting at a time. Children should not wait in cars until they have pulled all the way forward, as this slows down the process. When driving through the loop, please do not pass other cars. Elementary students may not be dropped off in the parking lot. Students will be marked tardy after 8:30 a.m.

Dismissal 2:45 p.m.

When students exit the building, they have an assigned spot to stand in with any other children getting in the same vehicle (siblings, car pools, etc.) We have numbered spaces along the sidewalk. Each family will receive one placard with the last name on it, and we ask that you place this on your dashboard. As you drive into the car loop, a staff member with a radio will read your placard and call out the name. The staff standing with the children will relay the names and a number, and the children getting in your car will move to their number to wait for your car. We ask that children load into the passenger side of the car so they remain on the sidewalk for their safety. Again, when driving through the loop, please do not pass other cars.

If more than one person will be picking your child up during the week or if you lose your placard during the course of the year, please make a new one.

Parents/guardians may not park in the lot and walk to the sidewalk to collect their children as this slows down the line for all. If your child has a medical issue or other documented need, please contact the office to discuss an alternate plan.

***Please note that all students will be dropped off and picked up in front of the building this year.** There were some drop offs and pick ups done in the side parking lot last year due to COVID protocols. Those are no longer in effect. We can better monitor students at arrival and dismissal with everyone using the front.

There are many staff on duty at both arrival and dismissal to assist students, particularly in the first few weeks of school as the children adjust to new routines and being back in school.

Finally, the majority of our students are transported to school in cars. If everyone follows these guidelines and has patience, the line will move smoothly and efficiently. When individuals try to circumvent these procedures, it holds everyone else up. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. We would also encourage you to share this communication with any grandparents, baby-sitters, older siblings, etc. who will be driving your child to and from school.