

August 1, 2024



Dear Parents/Guardians,

As staff of H.B. Rhame Elementary and members of the school improvement council we have become concerned about our children's safety when traveling to and from school, and especially during arrival and dismissal times. Several parents dropping off and picking up our students are not paying attention to basic safety, courtesy, and traffic laws. This letter is your reminder of student safety; children may not be dropped off at school or on the school campus before 7:00am. Students may not be left on campus later than 2:45 pm daily.

Car Pick-Up & Drop-Off Rules

- The only car pick-up/drop off area is in rear of the cafeteria through the middle school car loop. It is open and staff members are there every day until 7:30am to assist students. No children are to be dropped off in the mornings in the school bus loop. No children are to be dropped off by the bus loop or across the street.
- The driveway speed limit is **5 MPH**. For the safety of all children it is **critical** to observe this speed limit. Children should never unload into the center "Drive-through" lane.
- Always pull your vehicle as far forward as possible in the loading/unloading areas directly in front of the covered walkway. Only vehicles in the first lane closest to the school will be allowed to load/unload children. This will be clearly marked. For the safety of the children they are not allowed to unload in the other lanes.
- Students arriving after 7:30am should be escorted in the school by an adult. Which means parents should park, turn off the car and come into the front the office to sign-in students. Middle or High school students cannot sign-in elementary students.
- Vehicles should never be parked and left unattended in the bus loading zone. Visitor parking is clearly marked in our parking lot. Parents who want to drop off their children personally and walk them to their class **MUST** park in a regular parking space. Do not leave your car running and unattended, this is against the law and the school/district will not be liable for cars left unattended.
- Supervision for children in car pickup is only provided until 2:45 P.M. When parents are unable to pick up their children by this time, they are expected to come into the main office to sign students out. Students may not be dropped off before 7:00am. Parents' of students who are consistently late in the morning and/or afternoons will be notified in writing, especially if you live out of the H.B. Rhame Elementary school zone.
- It is critical that you and your child pay close attention to our staff, and follow their directions during arrival and dismissal times.
- All parents are encouraged to utilize the school bus for morning and afternoon transportation. Doing so will greatly reduce time in the car line for those who must drive their students to school and/or pick them up by car.



**Enter the St. Andrews
Parking lot and follow the
blue line exit right or left.
No child should be drop
off in other areas.**

Afternoon Pick Up

- For safety reasons, parents who want to sign out students after 2:00pm will be asked to wait until the student comes to parent pick up at the regular dismissal time.
- Car riders must be picked in the car loop. Numbered tags must be visible at all times.
- Parents not picking student up by 2:45pm on a consistent basis will be reported to the appropriate agency.

Please be ready for these safety procedures effecting our morning drop off and afternoon pick up to be enforced beginning the first day of the school. Dropping children off before school or failing to pick up children in a timely manner after school where no supervision is present puts children at risk of harm. As professionals who work with children we are required to report children at risk or suffering harm. If you have any questions, you may contact me at 803-731-8900. Working together, we can provide your child with a successful and safe school experience. We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation with these and other safety procedures already in place. **SAINTS' SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY!**

Sincerely,

Dr. M. Owens Carter
Principal