

WELCOME TO RIDGEVIEW ELEMENTARY!

Below is some very important information regarding school policies and procedures. Please take the time to read through this information so you can support us in keeping our students safe. We are so glad you are a member of the Ridgeview Huskies and we appreciate you adhering to these policies. Have a great year!

POLICY REGARDING PARKING LOT

We have a lot of vehicles in and out of the parking lot due to our size. Because of this and the suggestions made to administration, we have implemented the following policy. These two 20-minute time blocks are the busiest arrival and dismissal times.

Do not enter or exit parking spaces during the following times:

8:00-8:20 a.m. and 3:25-3:45 p.m.

Student Drop Off and Student Pick-Up ONLY

You may still continue dropping your child off in Lanes 1 or 2- "Kiss and Go"

Sidewalk and Crosswalk Use: Please be aware that parking policy means if you park in the parking lot just prior to 8:00am, you will be unable to leave until 8:21am. If you park in the parking lot just prior to 3:25pm, you will be unable to leave until 3:46pm. If you must park during the closed times, parking on the street and walking is probably going to be your best option. Also for safety reasons, **walkers will not be allowed to walk through the parking lot; the sidewalk must be used.** We know this means a few extra steps to travel and we are working on a possible walking path to shorten the distance between street parking and access to a crossing guard, but for now you must walk around on the sidewalk path. **We do not want anyone cutting across the parking lot, bus parking lot, or handicap parking lot while walking during our busy arrival and dismissal times, as it is unsafe.** We apologize for any inconvenience that this causes you, but our first priority must be safety of students. We appreciate your support with this.

****Please always model safety by using the sidewalks.** We want to keep everyone safe, so please do not cross through the bus parking lot or the round-about/handicap parking area. These are heavy traffic areas, so we ask that everyone utilizes the sidewalks.

Dogs/Pets on Campus: Due to health and safety concerns for the children we cannot allow any dogs or other pets on campus during drop off and pick up times. Please keep pets at home. Documented and clearly marked service animals are exempt. This is School District 49 policy (Policy EJ).

VISITS TO RIDGEVIEW

Our general school policy states that all visitors must sign in at the office and wear a sticker badge, and that all classroom visits and volunteers must be pre-arranged. **Any time someone visits the school--- before, during, or after the school day--- the visitor must use the main, front doors of the school (the buzz-in system) and immediately check in the office. No exceptions.** If a staff member asks you to report to the office to sign in and get a sticker badge, please know that they aren't trying to offend or upset anyone. If a staff member informs you that you cannot enter through a back door, no matter what the reason, please know that the intent is not to frustrate you. SAFETY is our number one priority, always!

When you buzz in at the front door, please be aware that our staff member may ask you a couple of identifying questions and/or questions about your purpose at the school prior to giving you access into the building. This is a quick screening for safety and security reasons. Once you are buzzed in, please close the door firmly behind you so that the next visitor also must be screened and buzzed in through the appropriate procedures. If you hold the door open for several others to enter, can you be sure these are all verified visitors? What if you let others in and they do not check in at the office? This could be a dangerous security risk. **It is best for you to only hold the door open for yourself and those with you, then close it firmly, and allow the next group or individual to buzz in for their own entry.** This ensures that our office staff can appropriately screen each guest, determine their purpose in the building, and keep an eye on them as they enter the building and check in at the office.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT is a top priority as well, and limiting classroom interruptions ensures that instructional time is utilized to its fullest potential.

Although the front office staff may know who you are, always be prepared to show your picture ID. You never know when there may be a substitute working the buzz-in system. **If the person working the front desk does not know you, you will have to show a picture ID in order to pick up your child. We cannot make exceptions, so please understand and be prepared.**

Please abide by these additional following guidelines to ensure we are all safe:

1. Follow the directions of the crossing guards.
2. While in the drop-off/pick-up lanes, ensure that you **pull forward as much as possible**.
This will help alleviate the traffic on Shimmering Creek.
3. Never park/block the intersections, entrances, or the crosswalks under any circumstances.
4. **BE PATIENT! Do not drive into oncoming traffic to get around another vehicle.**
This was stressed by CSPD. It is illegal and you can be ticketed!

LET'S WORK TOGETHER FOR OUR KIDS!

Lastly, we want our parents to know how much we care about your children and that every safety and security guideline we have in place is for their protection. We want and need your help in our quest to have the safest school possible! Some may not understand the rationale behind a given procedure or agree with the procedure, but if it is in place there are very good reasons. We do not create rules without a need. We collaborate with district, community, and state experts regarding what is most safe based upon our school's unique characteristics and needs. Ridgeview is a large school, this means we must have more procedures in place than a small school to ensure safety. PLEASE help us by consistently following all school procedures, and please respectfully hold one another accountable for these procedures as well. If staff members seek your compliance, please be respectful and do as they ask; understand that our staff members have been trained and their priority is the safety of your children. Our students are much more safe, in a public school setting, if they learn to consistently listen and follow the directions given by school staff. If your children see that you listen to and respect school staff, then they will too. When children see their parents argue with school personnel over following a rule or procedure, this is what is modeled for kids. Kids tend to do what they see. Fortunately for us, 99% of the time Ridgeview parents model excellent citizenship and are completely supportive of our staff and school safety/security. We thank you for that! It makes a big difference!

If you ever see unsafe things happening on our school grounds, please immediately inform the front office. You also have the right, of course, to contact the authorities at any time you feel a situation warrants it. If you are visiting the school and you see an adult without appropriate badge identification, please speak up. Ask that person to check in at the front office, and immediately seek a staff member to support you in this. Ridgeview is OUR school; it belongs to all of us in the community. Together we can ensure a safe, secure, and comfortable learning environment for our children.

We appreciate your support!

Kimberly Moore
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