

DROP OFF/PICK-UP & PARKING AT PRIESTMAN STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ATTENTION: IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS. PLEASE READ

April 8, 2019

Dear Priestman Street Families,

As many of you have probably noticed, parking and general driving etiquette at our school is getting more challenging every day. This has been an ongoing concern of the PSCC and the school administration for some time. Our top priority is the safety of our students, staff and school community. In recent weeks, there have been reported incidents of student's safety being compromised in the drop off & parking areas as well as damage to vehicles & confrontations amongst parents. For these reasons, we can no longer leave things as they currently are. **Please read the revised policy and make yourself aware of the changes. If we all follow these guidelines, it will make things much safer and efficient. Thank you for your understanding & cooperation with this issue.**



Priestman Street rounded driveway (front of the school)

This driveway is for buses only during the hours of 7:30am until 8:30am and from 1:30pm until 3:30pm. This must be followed to ensure buses can pull in and drop off students. No other vehicles should be in this area during the above mentioned times, not even for a quick drop off. If you are using this during usable hours please be aware that buses will and could still use this driveway to pick up for field trips and for early dismissals, so when buses are in the driveway they of course have the right of way, so please respect the flashing lights and be mindful of the students.

The Large Parking Lot off of York Street

- Priestman Elementary is a huge school (583 students) with a large number of staff. This parking lot is **staff only parking at all times**. Vehicles other than staff, should not be driving in or around that lot.
- When turning into this driveway/parking lot to access the drop off/drive thru lane, please be cautious of the cross walk & crossing guard as there are students crossing. Any walkers have the right of way to cross the lane as they make their way up to the paved walk way so that they can get to school safely.

Drop Off/Drive Thru Lanes

- There are two lanes. The right hand lane (closest to the school), is the student drop off lane. You may have also heard it referred to as a “Kiss and Drop” lane. The purpose of this lane is to make dropping off your child as quick and efficient as possible. **Please be patient and considerate of others.**
- **Your child(ren) should exit the car on the passenger side of the vehicle as this is the safest for the children. Also when people are opening car doors and stepping out into the drive thru lane, it creates a significant safety risk and makes it so other vehicles cannot drive through this lane.**
- **We ask that parents do not get out of their vehicle in the Drop Off area**, as this slows the process. If you need to exit your vehicle to assist your child, we would recommend parking on a side street and walking your child over to the school. The intention of the Drop Off area is a quick departure from the vehicle so that the line can move more quickly and safely.
- **You can drop your child(ren) off anywhere along the sidewalk**, not just at the designated walkway entrance to the school. 5-6 vehicles can pull up along the sidewalk at a time & then exit. Then the next 5-6 vehicles can pull up, etc. Please pull as far forward as you can to safely let your child out of the vehicle.
- The left hand lane is for driving through to the playground parking lot or to exit the area. We ask that there is **no stopping, no dropping your child(ren) off in that left lane (as they have to cross in front of other cars), no leaving your car & no parking.** Please do not cut into the Drop Off lane from the Drive Thru lane.

Entering & Exiting

- Please **NO VEHICLES should enter** from York Street at the lower playground parking lot driveway. One way traffic only.
- When exiting to York Street, there is **NO LEFT turn** on to York Street, all traffic should be turning right and going down York Street, or you can turn right onto Lisgar to make your way back to Priestman. We are working on getting a Do Not Enter & No Left Turn signs placed in the proper spot. **Also NO VEHICLES should be turning into the Playground Parking Lot.**

The playground parking lot was built to accommodate the overflow staff parking. As said before Priestman Elementary has a large number of staff and most days multiple staff members are having to park on nearby streets. Going forward the **playground parking lot will be for staff only** for the purpose of all day parking. **This parking lot will not be available for drop offs in the mornings or for picking up afterschool.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE CHANGES WILL TAKE EFFECT ON MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION WITH THIS MATTER & KEEPING OUR STUDENTS SAFE.