

## **Safety and Parking Updates for 2011-2012 School Year**

**Sean Taggart – Director of Security**

The 2011-2012 school year is upon us and I want to welcome everyone back for an exciting school year. During the summer numerous changes were made to traffic patterns and assigned parking on campus. These changes were driven largely by the ongoing construction and need to provide students with a safer pedestrian campus. The Security Department has consulted with school Administration, the Parents Association, architects and a Traffic Engineer in order to design the safest and most efficient system. Please note the changes below and the enclosed campus map illustrating these changes.

### **Parking**

1. The parking areas at the top of The Hill below Hines, Temple US and Helm Theater have been designated Faculty and Staff parking only between 7am and 5pm Monday through Friday. There are also 8 new Visitor only parking spaces and 5 new Handicapped spaces.
2. The Upper Gym parking lot is now designated student and parent only parking. The entire area adjacent to the stairs is for Senior Students. Signs have been placed throughout the parking area to assist you in finding the correct parking area.
3. The lower gym parking lot has been reserved for students, parents, faculty, staff, visitors and handicapped. Signs have been placed throughout the parking area to assist you in finding the correct parking area.

### **Traffic Flow and Student Drop-Off**

1. There are two drop-off and pick-up locations designated on campus. Both the Clayton Gym circle and the area next to the stairs in the Upper Gym parking lot will continue to be available. The sidewalk in the Upper Gym parking lot has been extended to Becker Library to provide safe pedestrian passage adjacent to the roadway.
2. Permits may be obtained in the Welcome Center for parents who need to drive in the interior of campus for handicapped student drop-off or other special needs.
3. Access to the Clayton Gym circle drop-off and pick-up will be restricted to the lower road adjacent to the soccer field in the morning and afternoon. The Upper Gym parking lot will not have access to the Clayton Gym circle during peak traffic and vehicles must enter and exit from the second entrance road slightly up the hill.

New parking permits will also be issued starting August 15<sup>th</sup>. All parents, students, faculty and staff are required to obtain a new permit. All previous permits will not be honored after September 12<sup>th</sup>. Permits can be picked up at the Welcome Center Monday through Friday between 7:30am and 4pm.

Last but not least, I would like to take a moment to discuss parking violations. It is against the law to park a vehicle in a handicapped space without the proper placards. Please do not park your vehicles in one of these spaces unless you have the placard. Leaving your vehicle unattended in a fire lane is also against the law. If you need to leave your vehicle and enter the school please park in a designated parking space. Vehicles left unattended in fire lanes create delays in pick-up and drop-off areas and also create a safety issue in case of emergencies.

I am hopeful the changes outlined above provide parents with a more efficient traffic pattern and students with a safer passage on campus. The new plan will be evaluated on a continuing basis for possible improvement, but your cooperation is needed in order to make the plan a success. I wish everyone a wonderful school year and encourage you to stop by the Welcome Center or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sean Taggart

Director of Security

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