



Swift, Smart, Strong

Mary Hogan Elementary School

Middlebury I.D. #4

Thomas E. Buzzell
Principal

Steven Lindemann
Assistant Principal

April 8, 2016

Dear Mary Hogan School Community:

We have observed increasing instances of drivers engaging in unsafe driving practices on Mary Hogan Drive and in the parking lots.

Specifically:

1. **Drivers who ignore the "One Way Do Not Enter" signs at the south end of the parking lot** and drive north (the wrong way) through the lot. This is a serious safety concern for both youngsters and adults. You must enter by Champlain Farms and travel from north to south through the parking lot.
2. **Driving too fast in the parking lot.**
3. **Parking in the fire lane 'circle' in front of the school.** This must remain clear for emergency vehicles as well as for the ACTR Bus to make its stops. If you are picking up your child from the Mary Johnson Program, tutoring or other after-school activity, your child should walk out to meet you in the parking lot, or you may park and walk up to the school to meet your child.
4. **Idling vehicles in the drop-off/pick-up lines.** Vermont law prohibits a person from causing or permitting the idling of motor vehicles for more than five minutes in any 60-minute period while the vehicle is stationary [Chapter 23 V.S.A. §1110]. Vehicle exhaust is hazardous to human health, especially children's.
5. **Parking in handicapped parking places** without a handicap permit.
6. **Parking in the drop-off/pick-up lines between 7:45 and 8:15 or between 2:30 and 3:15.** This creates both a traffic snarl and a visibility/safety issue.
7. **Arriving too early for drop-off/pick-up.** Students should not arrive before 7:50am. We ask that you do not arrive to pick up children prior to 2:45pm, as this causes unnecessary congestion in the parking lot.

Suggestions:

- As we move toward the warmer months, we are asking all members of the school community to consider "Walking or Rolling" to school whenever possible.
- For families who live on school or ACTR bus routes, please consider having students ride the bus rather than driving them to school.
- Carpooling is encouraged.

In an attempt to address the serious nature of these concerns, we have asked the Middlebury Police for increased patrols at the school. If we all work together, we can ensure a safe arrival and departure for all members of our school community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Buzzell
Principal

Steven Lindemann
Assistant Principal