



Dear Parents,

In an effort to maintain a safe environment for our students, I am writing this letter to inform you on some issues we are experiencing in the Mesquite parking lot. Since the start of the school year, we have had several situations where student safety has been a concern. The majority of these incidents have occurred during dismissal in the parking lots or the student drop off area.

We do have three parking lots, the front lot closest to the office, the back lot closest to the modulars, and additional parking by the soccer fields. If you are planning on picking up your child from the classroom, please park in either of these areas. There is also a student drop off area for quick drop off or pick up.

As you drop off or pick up your child, please follow these guidelines:

- The area in front of the school is for pick-up and drop-off only.
- At dismissal, always park and wait for your child beside the curb in the student drop off area. Double parking by the red curb is not permitted.
- Students have been instructed to walk around the loop using the sidewalk and not cut across the island at the drop off area.
- Please refrain from dropping students off in the parking lot crosswalk.
- Students should always use the parking lot crosswalk when walking through the parking lot (staff is stationed at the crosswalk to ensure safety).
- To park in the handicap spaces, handicap tags are required.
- The van handicap space in the parking lot is reserved for the school's special needs van.
- The bus bay loading zone is designated for buses only.
- Use caution when exiting the school onto Rita Road. Students cross the street (sometimes on bikes) at that entrance/exit.
- The medical plaza parking lot will be painting their curb near the entrance red and posting No Parking signs.
- Please refrain from dropping students off in the neighborhood North of Mesquite. The neighborhood association may contact TPD if they feel that the traffic is causing a safety concern in the neighborhood.

Mesquite staff is very visible before and after school monitoring the safety of students. Please be respectful and courteous to them. They are following the safety procedures that have been established for our students. I appreciate your attention to these matters as we strive to provide the best and safest learning environment possible.

Sincerely,
Diane Vargo
Mesquite Elementary School, Principal