



Winona Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

301 Lewis Road
Winona, Ontario L8E 5H1
Phone: 905.643.4141
Fax: 905.643.4666

EMAIL: winona@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: Mr. T. Illman
VICE-PRINCIPAL: Mrs. J. Adler
www.hwdsb.on.ca/winona

Parking at Winona

As we head into 2020, I want to ask for the help and support of our families with Parking at Winona Elementary School. We have an amazing community of families here at Winona so I feel confident and comfortable asking everyone to help make some “New Year Resolutions” together as a community to improve parking and morning drop-off. Our main objective is to always ensure that our parking lots are safe for students and keep vehicles flowing as efficiently as possible.

Winona is the second largest elementary school in HWDSB. We have the largest parking lot of any elementary school in the HWDSB. Many schools have very small parking lots with people parking all over the side streets creating traffic congestion everywhere. I realize that we have our own share of congestion on Lewis Road and Barton Street each day also but, for such a large and busy school, we do very well overall. I want to thank our great staff here at the school for their support each day with parking, student drop-off, bus unloading, student entry and dismissal. The staff at Winona take these supervision duties very seriously to keep students and families safe.

I thought it important to review some safety and parking flow reminders to everyone at this time. I have highlighted several reminders below. Please read them carefully.

- **The Instructional Day begins at 8:30 a.m. Students are expected to be entering the building with their classes at 8:28 a.m. and safely inside.** Please plan your home departure time accordingly so that you have taken into account possible traffic delays so that your child is at school on time.
- We do understand that there are some days when buses are late arriving to the morning bus stop which causes more parents to need to drive at the last minute and causes an influx of cars. We know these days occur. We understand that these situations are frustrating for everyone and we understand the extra cars on those days but these bus delays are beyond the control of the school.
- **Staff support for the “Kiss and Drop” lane ends at 8:28 a.m.** as the staff need to move inside to meet their students and start the day.
- **Lateness affects everything.** Bringing your child late to school affects the parking situation, it affects the staff getting to their appropriate classes inside on-time, and it affects the students getting to their classes inside and on-time.
- We have many staff members supporting the “Kiss and Drop” Lane. Please remember the following to keep this lane moving efficiently:
 - Enter the “Kiss and Drop” lane between 8:15 and 8:28 a.m. only. If you are late, please park your car in the parking lot and bring your child in to the office.
 - **Cars should NEVER be parked or left unattended in the “Kiss and Drop” lane** as this is a marked Fire Access Route.



Winona Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

301 Lewis Road
Winona, Ontario L8E 5H1
Phone: 905.643.4141
Fax: 905.643.4666

EMAIL: winona@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: Mr. T. Illman
VICE-PRINCIPAL: Mrs. J. Adler
www.hwdsb.on.ca/winona

- Have your children ready to exit the car in this lane. They should be dressed and have their backpack with them so they can simply step out of the car. Please do not dress your children with their winter clothes on the sidewalk of this lane or store their backpacks in the trunk of the car. Dressing children and retrieving backpacks takes too long. This jams up traffic not only in the lane but also on Lewis Road. If you wish to dress your child and have long farewells, please park in the main parking lot.
- Please follow the directions of staff in orange vests helping with parking. Jumping out of the main line simply to drop your child closer to the door can cause unsafe situations. Please park and unload as directed by the staff making those decisions.
- For our Kindergarten children, there are teachers waiting to receive your child, please do not leave your vehicle unattended in the lane.
- Please do not have long conferences with the teachers in the lane as this slows things down and also causes traffic jams. If you wish to speak with a teacher, please call or email or arrange a meeting. They are happy to talk with you but the Kiss and Drop lane is not the appropriate time or place.
- Our Main Parking lot is located at the South end of the school. We understand it is also a busy area. At the end of the day, it gets very crowded in that lot. Please respect the bus lane and **be patient with each other**. Drive slowly and carefully to keep our children and families safe.
- If you are parking in the Main lot at the end of the day and picking up your child on the sidewalk, please cross the bus lane carefully. We realize that sometimes people are very crowded in the lot so we ask people to move back to their cars as quickly as possible after meeting their child. Having long visits with friends on the sidewalk not only crowds the sidewalk for students loading onto buses but it also jams up the parking lot and slows departure for everyone.

I am hopeful that people understand where I am coming from in this reminder letter. I am not trying to offend anyone but I am concerned about student safety, students being on-time for school and keeping our traffic moving as efficiently as possible in such a large and busy school. We appreciate our community of families very much and ask for your help and support with these important matters. Thank-you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Tim Illman

Principal
Winona Elementary School