

Dear Parents,

First, I want to thank you for your patience and cooperation regarding arrival and dismissal at FTMS East. We have approximately 900 students riding in cars at East. Our last students are dropped off at around 7:55AM in the mornings, and classes do not begin until 8:10AM. In the evening, we dismiss at 3:15PM on a regular school day, and 2:40PM on a PLC day. It takes approximately twenty minutes for our lines to end on the east side of the building (7th & 8th grades), and the sixth graders on the west side are even earlier. From a time standpoint with 900+ students, I feel we are doing well dismissing the students. However, I am not comfortable with the safety of staff and students on the east side of the building at dismissal. We have staff and students walking across lanes of traffic with cars moving and parents looking for children driving forward in the lanes.

Beginning on Monday, August 29th, we are going to hold ALL cars in lines on the east side of the building (7th & 8th grades) until students are loaded. Students and staff will still cross lanes of cars, but the cars will not be moving. Once ALL or virtually all of the cars in lines are loaded with students each line will be released to exit, and a new set of cars will enter each line. Any parent not able to locate their child will be asked to pull forward and park their car in a designated area. Those parents will be asked to exit the car and look for their child.

Another change which will hopefully speed up the process is to open the front entrance for lanes **one and two** (the two closest to the building) after the buses depart. This will allow the east side of the building to utilize **BOTH** exits from the school. Again, I thank you for your patience. Another thing you might want to consider is arrival time. Some parents are coming at 2:00PM, and we don't dismiss until 3:15PM. I promise you there is NO line after 3:35PM each day. At 3:35PM, parents can literally drive up curbside and pick their child/children up with no wait. For some of you with commitments that might not be an option, but for others it would eliminate waiting an hour and fifteen minutes each day while your child is in class.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation, Jeffrey K. Eaton, Principal