



# De Pere Middle School

700 Swan Road, De Pere, Wisconsin 54115  
920-337-1024 • Fax: 920-337-1049

Betty Hartman, Principal  
Adam Kraemer, Assistant Principal

## “Safety Over Convenience”

February 27, 2018

Dear Parents, Grandparents and/or Guardians:

De Pere Middle School staff work hard at making the Middle School a safe place for all who work, attend or visit the school. Arrival and departure times mean increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic with a large number of people, concentrated in a relatively small area. Increased traffic can mean congestion, and congestion brings the potential for disaster. Careless habits in school areas at critical times can create devastating and sometimes fatal results. This means making choices, which may be less convenient but more safe. **Always choose Safety Over Convenience.**

With that being said, we want to bring to your attention to the proper procedure for dropping off and picking up your student(s). If you plan to drop your student off at school, you need to either park in the parking lot, pull up to the drop off zone located near the gym doors or drop them off in the rear of the school at the drop off zone along the Libal Street extension road by the football field.

The part of the parking lot directly in front of the school where the cones are, is not a place to park, stop or stand. Those cones should not have to be there because the area is marked with hash marks, which means no stopping, standing or parking is allowed in that area. Although, people are refusing to follow the rules of the road and they are parking there so the school has placed the cones to stop people from occupying that spot. Now we continue to see that people are stopping, standing and parking right next to the cones. This defeats the purpose of the cones and makes the entrance area very unsafe at drop off and pick up times. This area is a designated emergency vehicle zone and if we had an emergency at drop off or pick up time, we wouldn't have a place for the emergency vehicles to go. We stress that “No” vehicle should ever be in that area so that we can get emergency vehicles in when it is needed.

The drop off zone is only for those parents who are not going to leave their vehicle. If you plan to leave your vehicle, you must park your car in the parking lot. We are also noticing that people are parking on the left side of the traffic lane as well. The parking lot has two traffic lanes, one close to the curb on the side of the school and the other closest to the parking stalls in the parking lot. The traffic in both lanes is “One Way Only” in the direction of west and south bound only. The two lanes were set up so that the traffic can continually flow through the parking lot. Stopping, standing or parking in the left hand lane causes the students to have to walk out into moving traffic to get to your car and is very unsafe, so please avoid stopping, standing or parking in that lane. The lane is there so that vehicles can operate through and exit out of the parking lot.

The majority of safety problems stem from unsafe actions of parents (including grandparents) and students who choose convenience over safety. Unsafe parent behaviors include stopping in traffic, illegal parking and speeding. All of these behaviors can have tragic consequences. Unsafe student behaviors include running between parked cars.

It is your responsibility to know, understand, and follow the traffic patterns. If you have any questions about this letter, please don't hesitate to contact us!

Sincerely,

Betty Hartman  
Principal

Adam Kraemer  
Assistant Principal

Officer Dennis Gladwell  
School Resource Officer

---

*De Pere Middle School is dedicated to the academic, social and emotional growth of every student.  
We are committed to fostering a sense of respect, responsibility and trust that enables all to be successful in a global community.*

The Unified School District of De Pere complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX, Section 504 and other State and Federal Laws that govern on non-discrimination.