

GOULBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL WINTER TRANSPORTATION PLAN



As winter approaches, we have been trying to find ways to adjust our transportation plans, as our current plans will not work when the snow hits the ground. We currently have between 70-80 parents driving their children to and from school each day.

We have several concerns, but the main ones are:

1. Snow accumulation up on the shoulder, which will result in waiting cars encroaching onto Huntley Rd. We have seen several near misses over the past few months, and this will only become a greater risk
2. Students waiting outside as we move through the pick up process, potentially in very cold weather.
3. Reduced space in the lot due to snow accumulation.

We have consulted with several agencies to try to come up with a plan that reduces the number of cars on the road at any given time, but there really is no alternative to our current plan. Regardless of what changes we make in our lot, we will still have a large number of cars waiting to get in. Even if we increase the number of cars we let in, we end up with a backlog as cars are trying to leave through one exit.



The only way we can see reducing the wait on the shoulder is to schedule drop off and pick up times, and ask that parents adhere to the times we give. This won't eliminate the issue completely, but it will hopefully reduce it somewhat.

MORNING DROP OFF:

GRADE 8: 7:45-7:50

GRADE 7: 7:50-7:55

GRADE 6: 7:55-8:00

AFTERNOON PICK UP:

GRADE 6: 2:25-2:30

GRADE 7: 2:30-2:37

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GRADE 8: 2:37-2:45

We will start with this new process as of Monday morning to test it out before the snow sticks to the ground.



Here is what we are asking you:

Please **DO NOT ARRIVE** until your assigned time. We really do need families to respect the timelines. This is the only way we will be able to reduce the wait time on the road and hopefully reduce the risk.



Continue to arrive only from the North to turn right into the parking lot.



Continue to turn right when leaving the lot to maintain the flow out of the parking lot as much as possible.

We would also ask you to consider the following:

- Buses are being sanitized twice a day. Once in the morning and once in the afternoon before runs begin. As an early start school, we are the first runs in the morning and again in the afternoon.
- Students are seated with students in their class cohorts on the buses.
- If you are having your child take the bus in one direction, we would really appreciate it if you would consider having them take it in both directions.

More detailed information on the steps OSTA is taking to minimize risk on buses and vans can be found on the [OSTA website](#).

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in the matter.