



North Stonington Public Schools

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PETER L. NERO
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DEBORAH MARTIN
BUSINESS MANAGER

April 2, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As I have stated a number of times, the School Modernization Project will require everyone's patience. With the gymnasium closed, it not only has an impact on PE and classroom/instruction space, it has also reduced the number of parking spaces available. Another significant change was the closure of the egresses to the gymnasium which will reopen next March. In the first phase, the remodeling of the gymnasium and the building of the new middle/high school, the parking lot to the gymnasium has been completely fenced off as part of the project. It has an impact on daily parking for Wheeler staff and for students who have a driver's license and transport themselves to school. The Wheeler administration has developed and communicated a parking plan for its students and staff.

With the loss of the gymnasium area entrance, it makes for difficult and congested traffic at the elementary school in the morning and afternoon. Buses and parents can only enter and exit the elementary school area at the traffic light on Route 2. Mrs. Wilkison and her staff have worked with the project superintendent and have developed a plan that will take some time for everyone to get accustomed. Mrs. Wilkison has communicated that plan to her staff and families.

Important: When there are nighttime and weekend events at the elementary school, there will not be enough parking spaces in the elementary school parking lot. Additional parking can be found across the street at the Wheeler parking lot. If you need to park across the street from the elementary school, please do not walk across Route 2. That is most dangerous, especially with traffic coming to and from the casino. We ask that you please use the tunnel. There is a pathway to the tunnel that is fenced off from the construction site. BOE policy dictates consequences/sanctions for students who walk across Route 2. As a role model, you should be cognizant of the example that you set when we are with children at events and should not walk across the street. Anyone who needs handicap parking will find them at the elementary school parking lot. If you are transporting a senior citizen to an event and cannot find a parking space at the elementary school, you will have access to the front entrance of the school with your vehicle for drop off and pick up as you will have to park your vehicle across the street.

For Wheeler Middle/High School night or weekend events, you are welcome to use the elementary school parking lot for overflow parking. Again, do not walk across Route 2; please use the tunnel. We are currently working to improve the parking and traffic conditions and we will keep you informed of those improvements.

We will do our best to inform you of the School Modernization project on a weekly basis. Updates are also posted on our website.

Sincerely,

Peter L. Nero

Superintendent of Schools