

April 30, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We wanted to take this opportunity to share some information regarding some afternoon car line changes that will be implemented next week and continue through the end of the school year in an effort to alleviate some of the traffic backing up on Shackelford Ridge and Sam Powell. Please note that these changes only involve afternoon dismissal procedures as our morning arrival procedures will remain the same.

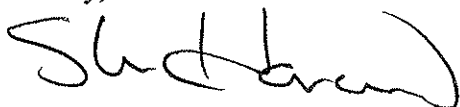
Beginning on Monday, May 4 our 3-5 car line area will be moving to the larger parking lot side of the building to allow more cars to be on campus during afternoon dismissal. Moving the 3-5 car line should have very minimal effects on other dismissal procedures including the moving of bus loading to the front of the building, having our Dogwood Grove walkers dismissed at the front of the building, and changing a small part of the procedures for parents picking up both K-2 and 3-5 students.

To assist our families in understanding the new procedures prior to next week, a quick video reflecting the changes has been put together and is available online via the Nolan website at nolanknights.com and also posted on the Nolan Facebook page. The video stars some of our famous car duty personalities and provides a great visual of the new procedures. For those who learn best by digesting the written word, you will find an overview of the procedures and video script on the back of this letter as well.

The new car line procedures have been vetted and put into place in partnership with the Town of Signal Mountain, the Signal Mountain Police Department, and HCDE in an effort to improve traffic flow each afternoon. For the first week or so, several officers will be stationed to monitor and condition us all to the new procedures so please be mindful of their presence and direction. Please also be very mindful of the importance of parents not arriving well before dismissal time to sit in the car line as this can certainly contribute to the traffic back up. In fact, most parents who time their arrival after the car lines begins find that they move through in such a timely manner while aiding in the solution of the traffic backups. Also, please note that additional traffic options have been considered as well and may be implemented if needed.

Thank you in advance as we all work together to get all our Signal Mountain students home safely each afternoon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Harwood', written in a cursive style.

Shane Harwood
Principal

Welcome to the Nolan car line! This video is designed to guide you through the safe and efficient pick up of your children each afternoon and to remind everyone of the morning drop off procedures as well.

Let's begin with afternoon pick up. After turning onto Sam Powell from Shackleford Ridge, parents who will be picking up only K-2 riders or BOTH K-2 and 3-5 riders will proceed as usual to the far Nolan entrance before entering the SMMHS campus. Once you turn into the last Nolan entrance, you will pull forward filling in the double-stacked K-2 car line. After making your way through the car line for child pick up, ALL parents will be directed to exit the K-2 car line through the next exit back onto Sam Powell. Please note this is a slight change for those parents who also need to pick up 3-5 car riders as they have crossed in front of the building in the past to join the 3-5 line. With our bus loading now being moved to the front of the school, K-2 parents who need to join the new 3-5 car line will do so by making a right turn off of Sam Powell into the last Nolan entrance which will become a one-way entrance in the afternoons to allow both Sam Powell traffic and Shackleford Ridge traffic to enter the new 3-5 car line relocated to the parking lot side of the building. After turning off of Sam Powell, all K-2 traffic will pull forward staying in the right lane to join the double-stacked 3-5 car line.

For those parents who only pick up 3-5 students, you will turn onto Sam Powell from Shackleford Ridge as usual, but you will now enter the new 3-5 car line through the first Nolan entrance staying in the left-side lane before pulling forward to join the double-stacked 3-5 car line. By using the longer driveway along the parking lot side of the building, we are hoping to alleviate some of the standstill traffic on Shackleford Ridge each afternoon for improved access to and from Nolan and SMMHS.

Once in the 3-5 car line, all of the current procedures apply with an emphasis on all cars having their Nolan car tags displayed for our duty teachers. For safety reasons, a cone or barrier will be used each afternoon to mark how far down cars will be loaded during each cycle. Once cars are loaded, the front duty teacher will direct the traffic to move one lane at a time with all cars exiting onto Shackleford Ridge from the back Nolan exit. That exit will be a one-way exit each afternoon with any cars needing to turn left staying in the left lane and all other traffic staying in the right lane to turn right. Any cars needing to return to SMMHS will need to turn left onto Shackleford Ridge and return back to Sam Powell.

Morning Car Line Reminders

As a reminder, all morning car line traffic enters through the last Nolan entrance just before the SMMHS campus. A single car line is utilized with all cars pulling as far forward as possible along the front sidewalk to allow as many cars possible to unload along the front sidewalk. All car rider students must go through the car line and enter through the front entrance. If a parent needs to accompany their students into the building, you must park and enter with your child. No students are allowed to be dropped off at the side parking lot entrance where our buses unload each morning.

Special Considerations

Please note that the new afternoon car line requires all buses to now load in front of the building. As such, all buses will be using the same entrance/exit way used by our K-2 car line as they exit onto Sam Powell. With 8 buses arriving at staggered times while the K-2 car line is stopped and loading this should not be an issue.

As always, please be mindful of our Dogwood Grove walkers each morning and afternoon. After picking up their children at the front entrance each afternoon, these families will be walking down the sidewalk in front of the building to cross the 3-5 car line in between cycles using the crosswalk.

For staff members and visitors who are parked in the side parking lot, please note that you will now drive through the parking lot toward the 3-5 playground to be directed to exit ahead of car line cycles out the back Nolan entrance onto Shackleford Ridge. There will no longer be any traffic exiting the side parking lot or 3-5 car line onto Sam Powell. For those needing to turn left or go to SMMHS, you will use the left lane to exit onto Shackleford Ridge.

Any parent or visitor needing to enter the school during afternoon dismissal will need to do so through the front entrance. If parked in the side parking lot, parents and visitors will need to cross the 3-5 car line at the crosswalk leading from the parking lot to the front sidewalk area. Parents or visitors will not be allowed to enter through the side entrance where car riders are waiting for pick up.

The new car line procedures have been vetted and put into place in partnership with the Town of Signal Mountain, the Signal Mountain Police Department, and HCDE in an effort to improve traffic flow each afternoon. For the first week or so, several officers will be stationed to monitor and condition us all to the new procedures so please be mindful of their presence and direction. By implementing these new procedures now, everyone will be prepared to begin next year following these procedures as well.

Thank you in advance for continuing to follow our Nolan car line procedures as we all work together to get our students home safely each afternoon.