

Traffic Flow and School Entrance at DMS

We are excited about the 2019-2020 School Year at DMS, and we are excited to welcome all of our students!

On July 29th, our Superintendent, Dr. Jan Harris, and the Dade County School Board, with the guidance of an architect, directed the completion of an access road at DMS to be used beginning this school year. The purpose of the map and written instructions is to explain the details and logistics of this big change on our campus. We want you to get through lines quickly, but, more importantly, we want everyone to be safe.

To enter the DMS campus, all traffic will flow one way. Once on Pace Drive, all vehicles will turn right into the front parking lot, enter the access road through the gate to the right of the UGA Extension Center building, and follow the road around to the back of the school building. (While traveling on the access road, we ask that drivers keep their vehicles as far to the right as possible on this one-way road.) Any visitors should enter the building at the main entrance and check in at the front desk in the main office.

The gate on the access road will be closed at 7:50am (when students are supposed to be seated in their first period classes.) Any student arriving late to school will have to check in at the front desk in the main office.

During the school day, the gate will remain closed. Visitors should press the call button to speak to someone in the front office who can open the gate to allow entry.

Before School:

Regular busses will unload at 7:20am in the front parking lot and enter the school building through the doors at the top of the front steps. (If a student is physically unable to climb the steps, once those needs are communicated to school staff, transportation arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis.)

Special needs busses and all other vehicles will use the access road to go to the back of the school. Special needs busses will unload under the awning at the annex building. All other vehicles will move to the gym crosswalk (single lane) where DMS staff will supervise students as they exit vehicles and enter the building at the main entrance (next to the cafeteria.) Students should not exit vehicles before the drop-off point at the gym crosswalk.

No vehicles will unload before 7:20am, so, if vehicles arrive on campus before that time, students must remain in their vehicles until it is time to enter the building (7:20.)

After School:

Special needs busses will arrive on campus at approximately 2:35pm. Any traffic attempting to leave campus coming from the back of the school at this time will be stopped to allow these busses to travel to the back of the school up the hill (beside the gym) against the normal flow of traffic to load students at the awning beside the annex building at 2:40pm. Once they load students, circle the annex building, and leave campus, the back gate will be released to allow any vehicles on the annex road to move forward.

All other busses will park (two lanes) in front of the school to wait for students to load when the bell rings at 2:55. Once all busses are loaded, they will leave DMS and move to their next stop.

All other vehicles will enter the access road through the front parking lot and wait on the access road until released to move forward after the special needs busses leave campus. Vehicles will then be directed to move forward and line up (double lane past the back gate) to wait. When the bell rings at 2:55, students not riding a bus will go to the gym to wait to be called to load into the appropriate vehicles. DMS staff will direct student movement and traffic flow until all students have been picked up. *Name cards to put in the front windows of vehicles will be provided so students' names can be displayed; this should make the pick-up process move more quickly as students' names will be visible for staff members to read so they can call for the appropriate students to come to the pick-up line in as timely a manner as possible. (These name cards will be available at Open House, on the car rider line, and in the DMS Main Office. The student's name should be written on the card with a bold pen/marker.)

We ask that vehicles not arrive on the DMS campus for afternoon pick-up until after 2:45. Since the campus now has one-way entry on the access road, no other vehicles will be able to enter campus for meetings/deliveries/etc., if vehicles are lined up on the road prematurely.

Other Important Information:

Quite a few parking places have been eliminated at the back of the school, but visitor parking near the main entrance will be available.

Any necessary student check-outs should happen before 2:30pm.

Thank you for your patience the first couple of weeks of school as everyone learns our new procedures. We appreciate your assistance in making DMS traffic flow move quickly and safely. It's going to be a great year!



