

October 27, 2015

Dear Mr. Ryerson

I am writing to you today because of safety concerns about the new AM drop off procedure at Millikin Elementary. Pinks' Bus Service, Inc. and its employee's are concerned about numerous issues that have come up, and would like to have the new procedure reversed.

Our first concern is for safety. On a daily basis since this change, parents are seen putting their children in harms way. We have parents who pass school buses with stop arms and lights activated. Parents are allowing their children to exit the car on the driver's side of the vehicle, then walking behind the school bus within the "10 foot danger Zone." Parents also take an unnecessary amount of time getting their children out of the car. They are sometimes finishing breakfast, still getting dressed, and checking homework/papers. These are ALL things that should be done before getting to school. Regardless of reason, all of these unnecessary things do nothing but back up traffic onto Congress Street.

Secondly, we are concerned that parents are dropping off before the "recommended" 8:00am time. That time is specifically stated in all correspondence to parents and very clearly written on the District 228 website (see Attachment #1, #2, and #3) Per District 228 and St. Malachy School requirements, all buses are required to drop off no earlier than 7:35am at St. Malachy, and no later than 7:50 am at GHS. Please realize that with those requirements, ALL 29 big buses and 3 Spec Ed buses all travel in a 15-minute window. Millikin's window is from 7:45 am to 8:00 am. So you can see how not enforcing what time parents drop off is becoming an issue.

Lastly, I have observed that it is common practice for your teachers to have car duties assigned to them at the end of each and every day. If the North doors are an issue, then why couldn't the same type of procedure be used for the morning drop off on the North side of the building? This seems like the most logical solution to keep all children's best interest at heart.

All District 228 Schools, except Southwest, have the added benefit of having cars and buses separated for pick up and drop off. This is an ideal situation for both parents and bus drivers. It is very upsetting that Geneseo Schools would not be utilizing this added benefit for the safety of all of their students. Please take into consideration our concerns and reverse this decision to combine buses and cars.

Sincerely,

Pinks' Bus Service, Inc. Employee's

cc: Scott Kuffel

Tim Gronksi

All School Board Members

J Shaeffer  
Linda Thompson  
Lori Erickson (30yr. driver)

Larry Miller  
Jan Seeci (31 yr. driver)

Judy Carlson

Mike Smith

Marvin D. Scranter

Jimmy Ewing

Jojo Post

Boz Murphy

Erin

Bob Porter

Brenda Johnson

Nichelle Rowe

Charles Holm

Julie E. Carlson

Thomas Herberich

Lee Kegan

Kelly Edwards

Sherman Jones

Candi Mueller

Darcy Schnauke

Attachment #1

e-mail Sent 10-26-15 pm 4:15pm

The purpose of this email is to remind you that if you are dropping off your child in the a.m. via car to please come starting at 8:00 a.m. This will allow all buses to be done dropping off students and allow you to get in and out quicker.

Thanks for all you do for your kids, Millikin, and this wonderful district!

Mr. Ryerson

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Geneseo Community Unit School District 228 would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Geneseo Community Unit School District 228 directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: <https://asp.schoolmessenger.com/geneseocusd228/unsubscribeemail.php?s=a2l0YTEwODFAeWFob28uY29t>

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.

Attachment # 2 e-mail sent 10-9-15 4:13 pm

Good afternoon - The purpose of this email is to inform you of a new car rider drop off procedure for the a.m. for students. This new procedure will start on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. The reason for this change is to ensure student safety and to promote better traffic flow.

**The ideal time to drop off your children is 8:00 a.m.**

**Car Rider Drop off- A.M. Procedure**

**K, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup>** grade students are to be dropped off at the main entrance of the building. You may pull up along the walkway, have your children exit the car, and enter the main doors. If you need to park your car and come into the school, please pull into a parking space as to not block other car riders and buses that may be coming.

**3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>** grade students will continue to be dropped off on the north side of the building. This is the same drop off area you have been using. (The north-side door will lock at 8:15. If it is after 8:15 please drop off your children at the main doors. )

If you have children who are in multiple grade levels – you may drop off at the entrance that corresponds to your youngest child.

This new procedure will be consistent with what we do for after school pick up areas.

**Car Rider Pick Up Reminder:**

\*\*\*Please note- if you are picking up your child in a car, you need to be in one of the two car lines. Please refrain from parking your car along Congress Street and picking your child up as a “walker” and then getting in your car to drive away. This creates a safety concern for everyone and safety is our number one priority. \*\*\*

We, as a school, will continue to monitor this new a.m. procedure and will notify you if any changes are to be made.

I appreciate all you do for your kids, this school, and our wonderful district!

Yours for children,  
Mr. Ryerson  
Principal-Millikin Elementary

## Attachment # 3 Dist 228 Website.

### Morning and Afternoon Pick-up and Drop-off Procedures

The school day begins at 8:25 a.m. and the bus riders riding students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m. When the buses have left the school driveway, the town students and any students not riding a bus that day are dismissed. Bicycle riders leave immediately after the car line passes.

**BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL -** Pupils who are non-bus riders should arrive at school no earlier than **8:00 a.m.** Non-bus riders are asked to remain outside of the building until 8:00 a.m. unless they eat the school prepared breakfast.

Those who ride a bus may enter the building when the bus arrives. They will go directly to the gymnasium. The first bell rings at 8:25 a.m. and classes begin at 8:30 a.m.

Please be aware of the following rules when you drop students off at school in the morning and when you pick your child up from school in the afternoon:

1. ALL traffic will form a single line. Please do not park and leave your car in line, do not double park for it will block the flow of traffic.
2. ALL students will be dropped off in the north drive before school.
3. ALL traffic will exit the north drive in a single line. All traffic will exit to the right onto Congress after stopping. Please be aware of students walking across the crosswalk area.
4. Students in grades K, 1, 2, must be picked up in the front drive after school. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be picked up in the north drive. Parents with children in both the lower (K-2) and upper (3-5) will pick up in the front drive.
5. Walkers and bicycle riders will be dismissed from the north side of the building after the car riders.

If your child has a doctor or dentist appointment scheduled for the end of the school day, please send a note to your child's teacher requesting that he/she be released some time before the 3:00 p.m. dismissal bell. Parents are asked not to send emails for a change in transportation.

We encourage parents not to make any changes in the transportation arrangements that are set at the beginning of the school year. If, however, changes do need to be made, please send a note to school in the morning specifying these changes. Include in this note the full name of the person who is picking up the student, not just "grandma" or "aunt". If it is absolutely necessary to have to make a change via the telephone, please try to do it before 2:00 p.m. or on early release days, one hour before the end of the day. In order for changes to be made over the telephone, the building secretary will ask the caller to identify the student's 4-digit pin number that was provided by the parent/guardian at registration. This system was created for the safety of our students. Please **DO NOT** share your child's 4-digit pin number with other adults and/or your child.