



# Lowery Longhorns

## Hooked on Learning

August 10, 2009

Dear Lowery Families,

As many of you are aware, there have been transportation changes for the coming year. As often the case with any change, questions arise as we try to work through how this change will affect us. Lowery is exploring new ways to handle the changes in the number of bikers, hikers and car riders. I want to assure the families that are affected that we are working and planning at Lowery to support these changes so that transportation flows smoothly.

Many students may be riding their bikes or walking to school. We currently have two bike racks on each side of the building that can secure 260 bikes. If we need to purchase additional racks, we will do so once we have a better idea of how many bikers we will have on most days. Students walking or riding their bikes will have supervision at 8:25. The doors will open at 8:30. When students arrive at school in the morning, they may wait by any of the three doors on the field day or playground side of the building. In the afternoon, all students will be dismissed from the recess or field day door by the covered patio. You can support us by practicing a planned route with your child and calculating the amount of time for the trip. This will assure that they arrive at school on time and also let you know when to expect them home after school. Conversations about the importance of sticking to a planned route and not making side stops will help to ensure their safety as they travel to and from school.

Since we anticipate an increase in the number of car riders, we will be changing the loading and unloading zones. Car riders will use the zones in the back of the building allowing more cars to load and unload at one time. Signs have been ordered and will be placed, allowing only right hand turns from the driveways during high traffic times. If you are picking your child up by car, you will need a car rider number. Numbers will be available at "Meet the Teacher" or during the first few days of school. Some families may need both an individual car rider number and a carpool number. A table will be designated for carpool numbers during "Meet the Teacher", to allow multiple families to use the same number.

Drop off for car riders will begin at 8:25 for students not purchasing breakfast and 8:20 for students purchasing breakfast. Pick up will begin at 3:45 from the back of the building. It is important that you place your yellow tag in your window. If you do not have a tag, you will need to park in the front parking lot and go in to check your child out. Students will not be released to parents that walk up with a car rider number. Expect the lines to be long, especially the first week, as we review the procedures we have put in place and make revisions based on numbers.

Our CFISD buses will load and unload in the circular drive in the front of the building. At this time, we are anticipating that we will also be servicing day care vans in the front circular drive.

Remember, students are not to arrive at campus before 8:25. We have revised the duty schedule to provide an adult to supervise at 8:25 on both the playground and field day side. Other adults will be assisting with car riders, breakfast and bus duty. The doors to the building will open at 8:30, 15 minutes before the official start of the day. Students are tardy after 8:45. If your child is purchasing breakfast from the cafeteria, they may enter the cafeteria at 8:20.

Although we do not endorse any of the day care programs, the YMCA does provide after school care at Lowery from 3:45 – 6:30. There is a fee for this program. The contact information is 281-859-6143. At this time the YMCA will not be providing an early morning program. Due to limited room, we are not able to facilitate this program before school at this time. I will evaluate this again after the start of school. Teachers are not available to watch children before 8:30 as they are involved in meetings, tutoring or planning from 8:00 to 8:30 daily.

Families may also be looking at other child care facilities in the area. I am including a list of daycares and phone numbers for your convenience. These are the daycares that have transported to and from Lowery in past years. If you are interested, you will need to contact them directly. The school cannot personally endorse any of the listed daycare providers.

While our procedures are not entirely in place, I hope this communication might have answered a few of your questions. We appreciate your patience and support as we work through the best plan for our kids' safety.

Longhorns Hooked on Learning,

Brenda Trial  
Principal

#### Community Day Cares

Brentwood Academy	281-463-7409
Brentwood North (Eldridge)	713-466-9407
Children's Courtyard	281-345-0960
Children's Planet	281-861-8000
Children's Lighthouse	281-300-7967
Copperfield Racquet Club	281-463-2582 (CFISD bus route)
Cornerstone Preschool	281-859-1612 (across from Lowery)
Discovery Years	281-861-0404
Early Explorations	832-593-6050
Kids R Kids	281-550-3060
Kids for Me	281-550-9183
Kinder Care	281-463-2454
LaPetite	281-855-6151
Primrose School	281-858-5600
The Cottage	281-859-6622
The Purpose Center	832-928-4748
Toddler House	281-550-4046
VIP Kids	713-937-8333
West Montessori	281-463-8886 (CFISD bus route)
Whiz Kids	281-858-0114
YMCA	281-859-6143