



Washington Middle School

505 N Meade
Glendive, MT 59330
(406) 377-2356
(406) 377-2357 Fax

Katy Kennedy
Principal

Caleb Swanson
Dean of Students

Sherri Nissley
Counselor

Wednesday, April 5, 2023,

Dear WMS Demon Families,

The district's word of the year is GROW.

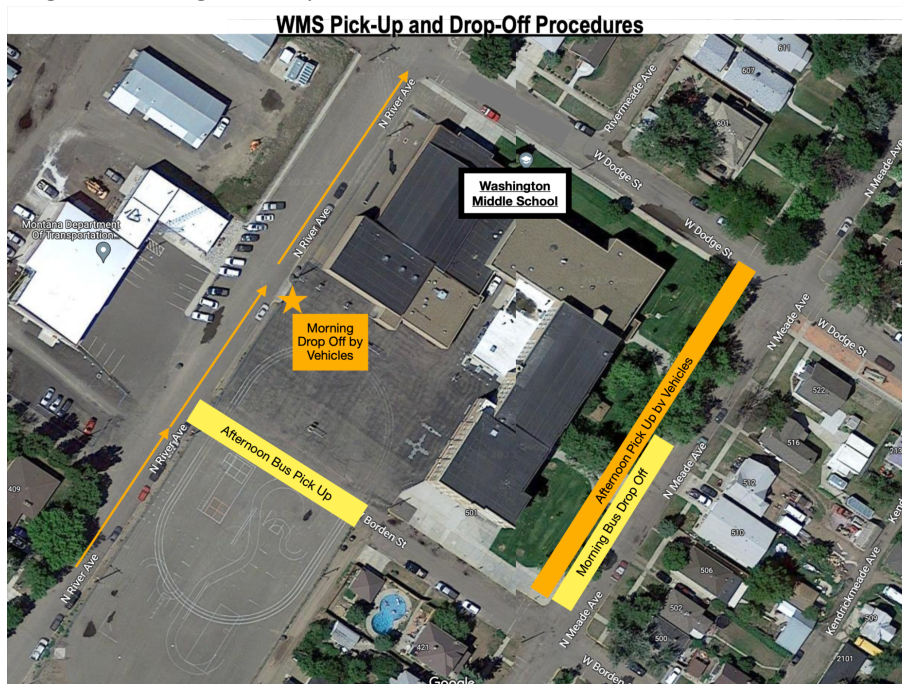
**Be your best.
Do your best.
Grow even better**

We are always trying to do that. **After spring break, we need your help to continue to grow.**

I have been at Washington Middle School for almost two years. During this time, I have been concerned about the safety of our students, WMS neighbors, and drivers on the streets around the school grounds, as the morning drop-off of students by vehicles is chaotic at best. Imagine the video game Frogger. For example, buses do not always have the space to drop off students due to vehicles dropping off students, some students are dropped off in the middle of the street and run across the road, some students are dropped off in the middle of an intersection, and some students are dropped off at stop signs with vehicles behind them. It is a safety concern for our students, school, and community.

I know this is only the case for some students. As I know, some students are dropped off at the curb and use the crosswalk to walk across Meade Ave, which I greatly appreciate. However, there is a significant concern for the safety of others that new procedures will be implemented beginning Tuesday, April 11th, right after spring break.

Here is a map of the changes. For a larger view, please use this [link](#).





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Morning Drop-Off for Vehicles:

- N. River Rd. heading North will be used as the morning drop-off area.
 - This road runs behind WMS and has less traffic from community members in the morning around 7:45.
 - There is an opening in the fence for students to enter the playground blacktop.
- Borden Street should not be used for student drop-off or pick-up.
- N. Meade Ave. should not be used for student drop-off.

Afternoon Drop-Off for Vehicles will **stay the same**. There is a significant decrease in the number of students who get picked up by family or siblings. The Morning and Afternoon Bus Pick and Drop-off will stay the same.

I know everyone is busy and have places to be, but in the end, it is for the **safety of all** these changes that need to be made. We will use this time to evaluate this procedure change and determine if other changes will help with the effectiveness and safety during Morning-Drop Off. Thank you for your help in making our school community safer.

Fondly,
Katy Kennedy
Principal
Washington Middle School