

exit the car on the passenger side, drive carefully. Now, there are some additional "common sense" rules: (1) do not turn left into the car pool lane while traveling south on 75th Street. A recent recommendation from the City of Lincoln Traffic Engineering says to not turn left into the car pool lane at drop off AND pick up, so we will formalize this beginning now. (2) When dropping off your children, drive into the car pool lane, drop off, and proceed out of the car pool lane. One of the complaints I am receiving is that some "stand" at the curb and wait until 8:50 a.m. or later to let their children out of the vehicle. Of course this slows down the process, since no one knows that these people are "standing" or waiting. (A hint: if you have a need to "stand and wait" at the curb at drop off, do it PAST the mailbox. This will allow others to drop off and exit the lane quickly and efficiently.)

Yesterday, one of our teachers was trying to help make student pick up safe for our children and someone tried to turn left into the car pool lane. When asked not to do so, the driver "gave the teacher the finger". WOW, what has our society become and Maxey Community become? Teachers give their time and energy to help children to be safe and they are treated like this? Why, help me understand? I hope this person comes in and sees me to explain! Maybe I just do not get it?

I know our parents would love to have a traffic enforcer directing the car pool lane. I would applaud a parent volunteer traffic enforcer group and I invite a person or persons to organize this. If you are interested in organizing this group, please see me immediately.

Let me explain to you why I do not provide this service as a paid position. First of all, I do not have the financial resources. To do so would mean reducing a classroom teacher to pay for this, thus increasing classroom size. I doubt that anyone wishes for this, as it directly affects student learning. Secondly, drivers using our car pool lane are mostly adults. They have already completed school (most with a B.A., many with a M.A. and some with a M.D., D.D.S. or PhD. They have already learned in school to follow the rules. You do not, or should not, need me to patrol drivers' "rule following" or lack thereof. Thirdly, I go outside almost every day to greet and supervise students to make sure they are recognized, valued, and are safe. I would hope you would prefer me to do this rather than to enforce "adult expected rules". I cannot do both and I took this job to work with and enjoy your children and help them learn to follow rules and be successful in school. I never agreed to take on the responsibility to be a "rule enforcer" for adults. Frankly, I do not have formal training in this area and am not interested.

As an added note, teachers are not available to supervise between 8:15 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., as contractually, they have professional plan time. They conduct and attend professional meetings, plan, and prepare for their students.

So, I think the best solution to this problem is first, follow the rules, follow the rules, follow the rules. If this does not work and you witness someone NOT following the rules, pull over to the curb and go talk to this person. Lastly, if these solutions do not work, let's organize the voluntary "enforcer group"!

I wish I could help more. Always know you can call me to complain and/or stop by and vent. I will be a good listener. Do remember, we are a school community of 800 students and about 600 families. In order for us to function in harmony and safety, we need to be considerate of ALL. Thanks for committing to help!

Handicapped Parking Spots

We have two areas designated as "Handicapped Parking" in the west car pool lane. We need drivers to not block or park in these areas unless they have a handicapped sticker and they are getting out of their car to enter the building. Having a handicapped sticker does not mean you can "stand" at the curb.

We have a young lady who is using a walker and her parents need one of these handicapped parking spots to help her get out of the car and help her into the building. Please be so kind to be respectful of her needs. Thank you.

Lunch Menu Change

There is a change to the lunch menu on Monday, November 24. The menu shows "Hamburger Pizza", and it will actually be "Hamburger on a Bun". Please note this change.

WANTED for the Art Room

The art room is in need of newspapers and Styrofoam or plastic egg cartons. Please drop off at the front check in desk, the office, or the art room (Rm. 108).

Thank you, Mrs. Hergott

Colder Weather is Coming...

Students will be going outside for recess during the colder weather. Students will remain inside when air or wind-chill temperatures reach 10 degrees or colder. We use the Holmes Lake Weather Station as our guide. (<http://www.gwwilk.com/>)

Please be reminded to write your children's names on their cold weather clothes items.

Looking for Hangers

Thank you to those of you who have dropped off hangers! We are still looking for large hangers for the Lost & Found. If you are able to donate any, please drop them off either in the office or the lost & found area. Thank you!

Student Council sponsoring Food Drive

The Student Council is sponsoring a food drive during the month of November. As you are well aware, there are thousands of low-income families who could use a hand. The Kids CAN Help Drive helps the Food Bank of Lincoln put food on the shelves during a time when otherwise they may not receive a great deal of food. It is our hope that the "Kids CAN Help" food drive will provide the Maxey community an opportunity to reach out to those in need. Thank you in advance.

Also, profits from Wednesday sales this month will be going to the Friendship Home.