

Orange City Elementary School  
Community Information Meeting  
Phase 2 Construction

When we return from Spring Break on April 1, 2024, we will be in Phase 2 of our new school building construction. We will transition to new portables prior to Spring Break and the demolition of some of the buildings will begin by the time we return. We will continue to utilize some of the buildings on campus during Phase 2, but some things will need to change due to our limited access to areas on the campus that are now utilized daily. Student pick up and drop off will change for all grade levels beginning April 1, 2024. Our plan is to prepare students and families for those changes as much as possible over the next few weeks. Traffic patterns will change and areas that parents/families have access to will also change quite a bit. We have worked closely with the district safety office, the sheriff's office crossing guard supervisors, the building department, and the city on the changes to ensure we make the transition as smooth as possible. While there may need to be additional changes, your patience and cooperation is of the utmost importance during this time.

### **Car Riders**

***Morning:*** Traffic will stage on Leavitt and turn right onto University and into the loop. All students will remain in their cars until entering the loop (on University). Staff will assist students in getting out of their car and entering the campus. Parents will need to remain in their vehicle as this area is a student only area. Parents will then remain in the line and follow traffic to exit the loop and turn right on University.

***Afternoon:*** Students who ride home in a car will need to wait in their new holding areas. All students will get new car tags (color coded by grade level) that are to be placed over the driver's side visor so we can identify both their name and grade prior to you getting to the loop. Simply drop down your visor when you approach and raise it once your child is picked up. This new measure is meant to speed up the process and keep student information confidential and readily available.

The students will be called to the loop and should be ready to enter the vehicle once you arrive in the pick up area. Parents will still use the lane on Leavitt as the staging area and will now turn the corner onto University and enter the area that was the bus loop to pick up their students. As you leave the loop, you can only turn right onto University as it is one way during arrival and dismissal. **Parents will NOT be permitted in this area for student safety and this is a standard protocol at schools across the district.** Parents MUST remain in their vehicle and staff will open the door and assist the student in getting into the car. Siblings will be called to line up together but will remain in separate holding areas by grade level until their name is called. **Parent "walk up" will no longer be an option for pick up due to safety protocols.**

### **Walkers/Bike Riders**

***Morning:*** Students should enter at the gate between Building 1 and 7. This is the single point of entry for students in grades K-5. Parents are NOT to drop students on University and have them walk in to the campus. Parent parking is now located on Orange and the only purpose for utilizing University is for staff parking or car rider drop off in the loop.

***Afternoon:*** Students who walk home will exit the campus near the bike rack. This is a student only area and students will be escorted past the bike racks by staff. Siblings can meet up at the bike rack prior to walking home together. Parents who wish to walk home with their student can wait at the Marquee at the corner of Orange and University, however there will be no staff supervision. Students who need to walk home towards the corner of University and Leavitt will be escorted across the loop by a crossing guard and continue walking. Parents are not to wait in this area as it is still the responsibility of the school to ensure each student gets off campus in a safe and orderly manner.

### **Bus/Daycare**

***Morning:*** Bus/Daycare students will be dropped off in the new bus area that we will use throughout Phase 2 on Orange Ave. Staff will be there to assist students in unloading the bus and entering the bus gate near the portables. Students will be supervised and have the option to go to their holding area or to breakfast.

***Afternoon:*** Bus/daycare students will line up in the new bus area that we will use throughout Phase 2 on Orange Ave. Staff will escort students one bus at a time to load the bus and exit the campus. All other bus students will wait inside the gate until called to load. Parents wishing to change their child's transportation will need to go to the front office and have their student called up. Parents/family members are not permitted at the bus loading area as a safety protocol to ensure all students who are bus riders load safely and efficiently during this transition.

### **VPK**

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**AM/PM:** Students who attend our VPK class must sign in and out each day. Parents are to park in a visitor spot on the side of the building on Orange and utilize the handicap access gate at the back of building 1 to check out their VPK student. VPK siblings may also use this holding area. No other students will be received in the morning or be dismissed at this gate as all students using this gate will be with the VPK staff and only released when the parent arrives.

**EDEP**

**AM/PM:** Parents may pick up from the EDEP gate as soon as 3:00pm. The EDEP staff needs time to take attendance and ensure they have an accurate count of students prior to dismissing them. We also have an obligation to get all our students dismissed prior to allowing parents who have not utilized the Raptor visitor system to enter the campus. This change is for an additional safety measure. Parents who need to pick up prior to 3 should report to the main office and we will call your student up from the EDEP staff.

**Visitor Parking**

Visitor and parent parking spots have relocated to the side of building 1 (On Orange Ave). There are also handicapped access spots there for visitors or VPK pickup. This will help alleviate the mix of student dismissal/arrival and parent areas as well as should provide more consistent parking spots for families during the construction and avoid traffic delays with the new car rider loop.

*We do recognize that there may be delays and longer than usual lines when we first start these new procedures, we ask that you please help us keep students safe during the busiest times of the day. Our school staff have witnessed many parents stopping in the road and allowing students to walk in the street during busy traffic hours. This is very unsafe and is dangerous for our students, even the ones walking or following the safety traffic guidelines. While we understand that life is busy and that we all have places to be and sometimes that rush can lead to us taking shortcuts when running late, the consequences of not following safety guidelines we have set out could have devastating consequences.*

*We must be role models for our children to follow and we ask that you help us show all students that we care and will work together to keep them safe.*

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**FRENCH**



**UNIVERSITY**

Parent Parking

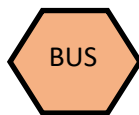
VPK Gate

Bus Loading Zone

Construction Zone

Car Rider Route

Main Office



Edited: 02/29/24