

Michael J. Petrides Educational Complex



September 2024

Dear Member of the Campus Community-

We are so excited to welcome you all back for another exciting school year here on our beautiful shared campus, known as the Petrides Educational Complex.

The Michael J. Petrides School, Bridge Preparatory Charter School, the Richard Hungerford School, the District 31 Administrative Offices and the Borough Command of the Division of School Safety are all located on the Petrides Educational Complex. Over 3,200 students and staff members arrive and depart to the campus each day and we need your support in prioritizing safety and security.

In an effort to ensure that our campus is safe and traffic patterns are efficient and orderly, the campus council met with the President of Community Education Council 31, Lucia Curatola-Boylan and the Department of Transportation (DOT) Borough Commissioner Roseanne Carruana to strategize potential improvements for safe arrivals in the morning and departures in the afternoon. The following have been discussed and will be implemented over the course of time to ensure for safety and efficiency:

- Increased Green Light time at the traffic signal entering campus at the gatehouse.
- Increased crossing time for pedestrians at Milford Dr and Ocean Terrace
- Making Ocean Terrace 2 lanes along campus, with one of these lanes being a RIGHT turn into the campus at the gate house.
- Possible placement of a left turn signal for vehicles exiting Safety City
- Enforcement of Parking placard violations along Ocean Terrace in No Standing Zones by NYPD.

We continuously partner with the DOT, Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), NYPD, and New York City Public Schools to problem solve for issues that occur and to address concerns, as well as proactively strategically plan. Over the last three years, these agencies and our Campus Council have contributed to positive changes around our campus. These recent changes supported safety and traffic efficiency:

- Traffic lights installed on Ocean Terrace and Milford Dr and on Renwick Ave and Milford Dr.
- Crosswalks for pedestrians and turn signals.
- NYPD Crossing Guard placed at the corner of Little Clove Rd and Renwick Ave.
- A new red-light camera on Little Clove Rd.
- One way traffic exiting campus on Campus Rd from the gatehouse beginning at 7:50 a.m. (New as of September 2024).
- Increased staff to support campus morning arrival, and adjustment to staff start times to allow for students to be taken off school buses at 7:30 a.m. to reduce the amount of traffic on Campus Rd.

We need your help to adhere to speed limits, specific school entrances/exits, traffic lights both on **and** off campus. Many students and staff walk on to campus and we **MUST** work together to prioritize their safety.

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When driving on/around the campus at all times, you are charged with:

- Only using the designated drop-off/pick-up areas that each school has set aside.
- Driving slowly at all times on the campus (adhere to the enforced speed limit).
- Crossing at the crosswalks only
- Not passing school buses when lights are flashing and/or the stop sign is extended, as State law requires
- Yielding to pedestrians at all times.
- Not blocking crosswalks, driveways, red zones, or fire hydrants.
- Being courteous to your fellow parents or guardians, employees of all schools on the campus, and School Safety Agents or Crossing Guards.
- Remaining alert and encouraging others to follow these safe-driving tips.

We are excited to continue to collaborate together and look forward to a safe, successful school year!

In partnership,

Anthony Tabbitas

Principal- The Petrides School

Tim Castanza

Head of School- Bridge Preparatory Charter School

Kristin Mchugh

Principal- Richard Hungerford School

Christine Loughlin

Executive Director of School Support and Operations- *District 31*