

THE RIDGE SCHOOL  
RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
325 WEST RIDGEWOOD AVENUE  
RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07450  
201-670-2740

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January 31, 2017

Dear Parents,

We have just recently passed the halfway mark for the school year. As the school year progresses, sometimes we see parents and caretakers become less diligent about following our parking and red zone rules. Please remember the only reason we have these rules and procedures is for the safety of your child and every child who attends Ridge School. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our parents who are red zone volunteers. Perhaps you could encourage your child to greet and thank them as well. A "Thank you!" or a "Good morning!" goes a long way to support our volunteers! We are still in need of more volunteers so please consider helping.

I'm asking all parents to re-read this abbreviated version of the rules, then sign and send in the tear-off with your youngest child by Friday, February 3. Thank you in advance for helping to make the pick-up and drop-off areas safe for all!

Jean Schoenlank  
Principal

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**General Rules:**

**Faculty Parking Lots - Drop-off, pick-up, driving through, or walking through the faculty parking lots is prohibited.** Parent use of both faculty parking lots in the front of the school is prohibited with the exception of cars using valid handicapped plates or placards.

**Parking-** Some parking spots are available for parents and guests on the entrance side of the driveway. Some parking is allowed on West Ridgewood Ave and surrounding side streets as well.

**Fire Lane** - No stopping is permitted in the fire lane. Encouraging children to walk between cars to enter a car waiting in the fire lane is dangerous!

**Driveway to the Back of School** - No driving or parking is allowed in this area.

**Bus-Loading Zone** - Parking in the bus-loading zone (on the exit side of the driveway) is prohibited from 8:15-9:15am and 2:30-3:15pm.

**Clinton Avenue**

Clinton Avenue is closed to traffic during school hours. You are prohibited from parking at the top of Clinton or making a U-turn at the top of Clinton.

**Red Zone:**

- The red painted area on the driveway is for drop off in the morning and pick-up in the afternoon only. **There is no standing (waiting) or parking in the "Red Zone" ever during school hours (8:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.).**

- There is no parking in the red zone throughout the school day, including kindergarten pick-up and drop-off. **Do not leave your car unattended, even for a minute.** If you must walk your child into school, you will need to legally park elsewhere.
- Parent volunteers will again be assisting with traffic flow in the red zone. Please watch for their directions and treat them respectfully. They are there for the safety of your children. **Please consider being a red zone volunteer!**

**Suggestions:**

- Adults need to model safe and responsible behavior for children. Much of what children learn is “caught rather than taught.”
- The Ridgewood elementary schools were built as neighborhood schools so children could walk to school. Whenever possible, have children walk to and from school. Arrange neighborhood-walking groups.
- Carpool whenever possible.
- If you have an older child, it may be helpful to arrange a slightly later pick-up time to avoid the 3:00 p.m. rush.
- Parents sometimes feel the need to join the red zone line as early as 2:30. This seems to create a sense of urgency for more people to join the line early. Please consider coming to school closer to 3:00. By 3:15 every day, the red zone is basically empty and Ridgewood Avenue is back to normal.

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***Please sign and return this portion of the letter to the teacher of your youngest child by February 3 to indicate that you have re-read the parking and red zone rules and shared them with any caregivers who may be dropping off and/or picking up your child(ren).***

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to volunteer in the red zone.