

WILLIAM A. SHINE
GREAT NECK SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

341 Lakeville Road, Great Neck, New York 11020

*“Our Orange and Blue
starts with an Extraordinary You”*

Dr. Christopher Gitz, Principal
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March 1, 2024

Dear South High School Community,

As you may be aware, one of our security guards was injured during morning arrival on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. While most drivers are courteous and patient, it is unfortunate that there are an increasing number who disregard directives from Security Guards to stop or proceed. Also, there are those who are completely impatient and make dangerous U-turns, or other unsafe maneuvers in the staff and student parking lots daily. This places students and staff in serious danger. As a result of the unsafe conditions created by the high volume of cars dropping off students, we have decided to revise our morning drop-off traffic pattern.

As we have previously reported in our communication on January 19, 2024, the District is closely working with the Lake Success Police Department as our partner in safety. While they have implored the District to direct parents to utilize school buses, we realize we cannot compel you to do so. Nonetheless, they do have the authority to control traffic flows from public streets onto our property, so we must comply with certain directives.

Beginning on Monday, March 11, 2024, we will have a new traffic flow pattern at South High. The changes will begin each day after the buses conclude their student drop-off (approximately 7:35 a.m.).

These changes include:

- **Requiring those who enter the property from Lakeville Road, to drop-off in the staff lot, near the West Gym. You will then be directed to circle back and exit via Lakeville Road. You will not be permitted to drive to the front of the building. All drivers must follow the directions of the security guards. Students dropped off in this area of the campus will enter the building through the west gym entrance (Please see the attached map).**
- **Requiring those entering from the LIE Service Road to drop-off at designated locations in front of South High School. You will then be directed back onto the LIE Service Road. You will not be permitted to drive towards Lakeville Road or South Middle School. All drivers must follow the directions of the security guards. Students dropped off in this area of the campus will enter the building through the main entrance or east gym entrance. (Please see the attached map).**
- **Students that drive to school (seniors only) will enter the campus from the LIE Service Road through the easternmost parking lot entrance.**

We realize all of this may result in families needing to budget more time in the morning, as well as the inconvenience caused by the changes in entrances and exits. We are deeply sorry for this, but changes must take place to ensure the safety of students and staff.

On a side note, it has been noted that there has been an increase in the number of livery and ride-share vehicles dropping students each day. We strongly discourage this practice as the safe driving and familiarity with our procedures cannot be assured. Please know that we utilize license plate readers, and will also begin monitoring which students arrive in these vehicles as part of our ongoing process to ensure only GNPS residents attend our schools.

Again, we remind parents/guardians to encourage students to ride the bus to school in the morning. Our buses offer a safe and reliable method of transportation. The more students that take advantage of the provided district transportation, the more efficient our arrival/dismissal procedures will be. We thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christopher Gitz
Principal