

DRIPPING SPRINGS ISD

Dripping Springs

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dear SSMS Community,

Construction of the Sycamore Springs Middle School expansion will begin when we return from winter break! We are excited to start this much-needed project, which was approved by voters in the May 2023 Bond to relieve overcrowding on our campus.

Due to this construction, the traffic flow for drop-off and pick-up for both Sycamore Springs Middle School and Sycamore Springs Elementary will change starting Monday, January 8. You can see a map of the new traffic pattern [here](#).

For SSMS families living north of the campus (i.e. Belterra, Ledge Stone, etc.), you will enter and exit through the current campus entrance at the north side of the campus by the football field (see purple route on [map](#)). Instead of taking a right and driving alongside the school, parents will continue left and drive alongside the football field to the back of the campus and drop-off/pick-up students near the cafeteria (newly named the Blue Lot). Parents will loop around the small parking lot next to the cafeteria and follow the same path (see aqua route on [map](#)) and exit onto Sawyer Ranch. The parking lot will be restriped for two-way traffic over winter break.

For SSMS families living south of the campus (i.e. Highpointe), you will enter and exit through the former campus exit (see pink route on [map](#)). Parents will drive to the back of SSE and circle around to drop-off/pick-up students in the Yellow Lot (near the SSE entrance).

The front lot (Maroon) will continue to be used for buses, ADA access, and staff parking. You are welcome to park in the front lot anytime you need to come inside the campus but please do not use the front lot for drop-off or pick-up.

For Walkers and Bikers

There will be a crossing guard at the walkway to Highpointe to assist pedestrians. Bikers entering/exiting the campus from the south (Highpointe or similar) should travel on the path from Highpointe to be escorted by the crossing guard at the pathway. Bikers entering/exiting the campus from the north (Belterra or similar) should remain on the Sawyer Ranch sidewalk until they reach the north entrance, then walk their bike across the traffic entrance and proceed to the front porch to secure their bikes at the racks by the main entrance of the school. Please remind your bikers to get off of their bikes and walk across any entrances or exits.

Hays County will be onsite to provide additional support while we adjust to the new traffic flow. Please review the [map](#) carefully and speak to your students about the changes. We need everyone to pay attention to the changes and limit distractions (please stay off your phones).

Extra-Curriculars and Alternate Schedules

We understand that many of our students follow alternate schedules due to their extra-curricular activities (band, athletics, fine arts, etc.). Please use the route that best fits your student's needs for those activities. In other words, if you live in Highpointe, but your student needs to be dropped off near the gym doors for athletics, please follow the purple route to drop your child off as needed.

As a reminder, the SSMS expansion will provide much-needed relief and benefits to our students and staff including increasing our capacity to 1,200 students through the addition of approximately 45,000 square feet, expanding the cafeteria, providing new security measures, updating ADA accessibility, and more.

Thank you for your patience and support while we adjust to the new traffic pattern. We are hopeful that splitting the traffic into two loops may actually expedite our campus traffic flow. If you have any questions about the new traffic flow pattern or this message, please email

dsisdcommunications@dsisdtx.us.

Sincerely,

Kelly Miller
Principal
Sycamore Springs Middle School