



# LAKELAND HIGHLANDS MIDDLE SCHOOL

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March 6, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

At Lakeland Highlands Middle School, we care about our students' intellectual, emotional, and physical well-being.

In previous years, there has been concern over the number of LHMS students who walk to the Publix shopping center, Liberty Hill neighborhood, Smart Start Day School, Presbyterian Church and surrounding private properties after school to be picked up by their parents. With 1,200 students, it is inevitable that it will take a substantial amount of time for all students to vacate the campus. However, we have worked closely with the Lakeland Police Department to create an organized dismissal process that is safe for all students. While we understand the desire to expedite the pick-up process, we must ask that, for your child's safety, you refrain from instructing your child to wait for pick up at locations other than LHMS.

As you may know, we have a Lakeland Police Department School Resource Officer assigned to our campus daily to promote safety. However, there is not supervision at the shopping center or on the private properties to keep students safe. In order to avoid any accidents that could occur while students wait for pick up at any other location, we ask that all students who are car riders remain at the front of the school while their parents drive through the parent pick-up line.

In addition, we have not been provided permission to use the daycare across the street as a parking lot. We restrict students from crossing Lake Miriam Drive for their safety, and ask that parents please refrain from parking in the lot and directing their students to be picked up there. Please use the organized dismissal process of driving through the parent pick-up line and meet your student at the front of the building.

We wish to assure you that our LHMS staff and committees continue to pursue and exhaust all options to improve campus safety. Furthermore, we value your partnership and thank you for working with us to continue to ensure that all Lakeland Highlands Middle School students are safe as they make their way home from school.

Sincerely,

*Telay Kendrick*