

**Regional School District 13 Middlefield - Durham**

**FRANK WARD STRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**P.O. Box 435, 191 MAIN STREET**  
**DURHAM, CT 06422**  
**Office 349-7222 Guidance 349-7255 Fax 349-7225**  
*“Strong Students Shape Tomorrow”*

August, 2017

Dear Strong Students, Parents & Guardians,

Welcome to (or back to) Strong School. The entire staff is excited for another great year, and we look forward to working with you and your students throughout their time at Strong School. A few items of importance that I would like to share with you are detailed below.

For safety and security purposes, all exterior doors will remain locked throughout the school day with two distinct exceptions. The main entrance door is unlocked from 7:00 – 7:25 AM, and back doors to the cafeteria are unlocked from 7:00 – 7:20 to accommodate students arriving to school by bus. Students arriving to Strong School prior to 7:00 will either need to wait outside until the doors are unlocked, or, provided an adult is present, they will be allowed to wait in the lobby area until 7:00. At 7:00, all students are welcome to wait in the front hallway or the cafeteria until the 7:15 bell rings.

We are aware that the morning rush for families can be a stressful time. The first bell sounds at 7:15 and first period starts at 7:20 AM. Students arriving to school after 7:20 AM are considered tardy. When students arrive late to school, they are often late to first period which may add an unnecessary level of stress to their day. Furthermore, this creates a variety of challenges for teachers and the office staff regarding accurate attendance, hallway climate issues and class instruction. Strong considers student tardies a concern for all regardless of academic standing.

We are aware that traffic both on Route 17 and in the Strong parking lot makes it challenging for students to arrive at school in a punctual manner. If for whatever reason bus transportation is not your preference, one manner in which traffic can be avoided is for a student to be dropped off 5 to 10 minutes earlier. Typically, entrance into the parking lot at Strong between 7:00 and 7:10 AM is less congested.

We ask that you continue to drop off your child in the front of the building. Utilizing Pickett Lane and the rear parking lot complicates busing traffic patterns and is *unsafe*. When dropping off your child in the front of the building, we ask that students exit vehicles as close to the designated sidewalks as possible. Students and cars in and around the parking lot is a safety concern. Failure to adhere to safety issues will result in action by the administration. Please take care during this daily drop off procedure.

Traffic safety is something we all own. Strong hopes these reminders result in a morning routine that is safe and beneficial to all students and the Strong community. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 349-7222 or by email at [ssadinsky@rsd13.org](mailto:ssadinsky@rsd13.org) should you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,



Scott D. Sadinsky  
Principal