

The District has received many questions about the upcoming Haviland Middle School (HMS) Bus Loop plans. We have addressed some of the most common questions with answers below:

**Q1.** Why does the District want to restructure the HMS bus loop?

**A1.** To improve student safety when in the bus loading area.

**Q2.** Can you explain what these safety concerns are?

**A2.** Current safety concerns are:

- Currently the buses lineup in a double row.
- There are no assigned parking spaces.
- Students must cross between busses and traffic to get to their busses
- The handicapped parking is in the bus loop – conflicting traffic
- Difficult to oversee and ensure safety

We suggest that you review the video demonstration of the differences between the safety and efficiency of the FDR High School dismissal versus the HMS dismissal. This video is available on the District's website at:

<http://classrooms.hydeparkschools.org/webpages/busloop/>

**Q3.** What needs to change?

**A3.** Several key changes will make a safer bus loop:

- Aligning busses on an angle, minimizing nose to tail line up
- Creating a design that allows for assigned spaces
- Locating bus loop near multiple exits from the school
- Reducing time for arrival and departure
- Create a more manageable traffic pattern
- Separating other traffic from bus traffic

**Q4.** Why is change needed now?

**A4.** Funds are now available. On May 18<sup>th</sup> voters approved the redirection of 2A capital funds to address this safety concern.

**Q5.** Did the voters approve the design of the HMS bus loop in May 2010 when they approved the use of the funds remaining from the December 13, 2007 referendum?

**A5.** **No.** The drawing used prior to the May 2010 vote was for conceptual purposes only. It was developed to allow for appropriate cost estimates and to demonstrate the difference between the current configuration and a safer alternative. It is only one of a number of concept drawings developed during the course of discussing the project.

**Q6.** How is the District addressing the aesthetic concerns about the historic front lawn and curve?

**A6.** The District reiterates that it was **never our intention** to “pave over the front lawn”. Close attention is being given to the development of designs that offer the most safety with minimal if any impact to this area.

**Q7.** How is the District addressing the community’s concerns about the design and location of the bus loop?

**A7.** The Board of Education required that the District’s Project Team review all the schematic drawings completed during the preliminary design process. Project Team developed several alternative designs. The review work and additional designs were presented to the Facilities Steering Forum (FSF) on August 4<sup>th</sup> for discussion and review.

**Q8.** When are the public hearings?

**A8.** The district has scheduled two public hearing sessions. These will be at the:

1. Facilities Steering Forum Meeting  
Wednesday, September 15, 2010  
5:00 p.m.  
Haviland Middle School Library
2. Regular Board of Education Meeting  
Thursday, September 30, 2010  
7:00 p.m.  
Haviland Middle School Library

**Q9.** What does the District plan to do following the public input sessions?

**A9.** Following these meetings, Project Team will review all of the input provided, identify an optimal design or set of designs and review these with the FSF on October 6<sup>th</sup>. The FSF is expected to provide a recommended design to the Board of Education at the October 28<sup>th</sup> board meeting. The Board of Education is expected to vote on a final design at its November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*Thank you for your interest in the bus loop project.*