

HAMLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28-3

P.O. BOX 298
PHONE (605) 783-3631

HAYTI, SD 57241-2098
FAX (605) 783-3632

JOE HOMOLA
BOARD PRESIDENT

JIM HULSCHER
SUPERINTENDENT
jim.hulscher@k12.sd.us

TERRI L. GAIKOWSKI
BUSINESS OFFICIAL
terri.gaikowski@k12.sd.us

October 14, 2022

Today (October 14) we are unofficially ¼ done with the school year! The first nine weeks ends today. This is hard to believe. Parent Teacher Conferences will be Tuesday, October 18.

Safety is constantly on our minds at Hamlin School. We are always looking to make the school day better and safer for students while not jeopardizing their education. One of the safety measures implemented this school year has been the end of the school day pickup system. This is a work in progress and there may never be the perfect system.

Some things we have done to incorporate a safer dismissal for ALL students:

- Grades 6-12 are dismissed for the day at 3:20 while K-5 still go until 3:30. This gets the older kids who are driving out of the parking lot before the little kids are even dismissed.
- We have blocked off the driveway behind the buses and opened up an exit driveway straight to the east of the main entrance. This avoids vehicles driving in an area with students running in between buses and where buses will be loading and eventually backing up. It also allows an exit for those parents who have their child from the pickup and would like to leave in a safe manner.
- We have separated elementary students inside the building into those who are riding the bus home and those who are riding home with parents. Those who are riding home with parents will come out the north doors to be picked up by their parents. Those who are riding the bus home will come out by the main doors.
- We have made parents in the pickup line remain in single file to avoid kids running through where parents will be driving. This is a work in progress and may never have the perfect answer. We have days with 10 parent vehicles in line and we have other days (like the early dismissals and homecoming Friday) where we have over 30 cars and close to 50 vehicles picking up children. This past week has had more vehicles in the pickup line, and I do not know if this has to do with harvest season or what?
- Teachers are present outside especially during elementary dismissal. Wow!! Great work teachers!

All in all, we are trying to make it a safer dismissal from school. One thing that has happened is all parents in the pickup line are gone before the buses are gone. We did not expect that to happen. We ask 3 things of those in the pickup line to ensure everyone's safety: (1) have a little patience, (2) follow the rules: don't speed, don't try to cut the system just to save a minute. It's not worth it. (3) Plan ahead, if you are picking your child up, contact the school ahead of time.

I hope everyone has a safe and bountiful harvest. Enjoy the fall and watch out for more slow-moving traffic and animals on the road.

Jim Hulscher
Hamlin School Superintendent

GAIL KRAUSE
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
Gail.Krause@k12.sd.us

JEFFREY SHEEHAN
MS/HS PRINCIPAL
Jeff.Sheehan@k12.sd.us

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