

October 1, 2009

Dear Drake Parents,

Well, I am happy to report that we had a wonderful month of September at Drake School! Our students have been working hard and learning new things every day. Our construction work is on-going, with progress made daily. Our grass is starting to grow, our new offices are settled, and our new heating system is pumping out warmth on this chilly October day! Our three new classrooms will be finished by mid-October, which will create more space for programs such as remedial math, gifted and talented, special education, and occupational therapy.

I would like to point out a few areas where we need your help:

- ✓ Please do not "park" in the drop off/pick up area. This lane is meant to be used for pulling up to allow a child to hop in or out. If you are planning on leaving your car to enter the building, please utilize a parking space or park on the street. Also, try to pull up as far as possible as you enter this lane. There is ample sidewalk to allow all students to walk safely, and pulling up will help us to avoid a back up.
- ✓ With our new office configuration, some parents have been confused about what to do if bringing a late student or coming in for an early dismissal. Late students should be dropped off in the nurse's office. Early dismissals take place in the main office. In both cases, we respectfully ask that parents **do not** venture down to classrooms to avoid any disruption to our instructional day. If you have an appointment or meeting with a staff member, please sign in at the office and get a visitor's badge before proceeding to the classroom.

As always, feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns. Working together, we will make this a fantastic year for your child!

Sincerely,

Janet Matyevich  
Principal

Our annual Halloween Parade will take place at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Students should come to school in their costumes. Weather permitting, the parade will take place on Drake Drive. Because this is a special event where the whole school comes together, we respectfully request that costumes *not* include blood, weapons, or any kind of violent theme. Scary outfits can frighten our youngest students, and we certainly want the morning to be positive and fun for everyone! Thank you for your help with this matter.