

August 15, 2008

Dear SCS Parents,

As there have been many concerns about afternoon dismissal at SCS, we would like to take this opportunity to let you know that we have been working with the administration to find a solution. In addition to parental concerns, there have also been many, many complaints from our neighbors in the community about parking and safety issues. Having said that, we would like to be clear that the mission of the Co-op and Men's Club is to support the school in any way possible and not to determine or enforce school policies or procedures. We are engaged with the administration and take our advisory roles seriously but in the end it is up to parents to ensure that their children get to school safely.

Mrs. Tarantino and Mr. Hill have spent months speaking with faculty, parents, parish officials, insurance experts and others to try to figure out how to safely and efficiently run afternoon dismissal. Many of you attended a meeting concerning school dismissal earlier this month. A dismissal/carpool committee was formed out of that meeting. The administration will be calling a committee meeting in the very near future to hear parents' input and let us know the school's progress in finalizing a plan.

We as parents must accept that the safety and community issues can only truly be solved by us. It is imperative that parents behave responsibly and abide by school rules and traffic laws. We can not have parents running with their children across Bonnabel or Codifer in the middle of the street and through traffic and carpool lines to save a few minutes at drop off or pickup, or walking their children past the gates where the carpool line is exiting. I think we can all agree that none should speed in the school zones and that we must all be aware of pedestrians whether child or adult. We should never park in or very near driveways or in private parking lots just as we would not want someone blocking ours. Finally, as a Christian community we should be respectful to teachers who are doing their jobs trying to keep all our kids safe. If we as parents follow the traffic laws and the school rules then our children will be safe and our dismissal can be efficient. There is no plan that can work without parental support.

If you are concerned about this issue, then we ask that you submit your comments in writing in an envelope marked "dismissal/carpool" to the school office. The committee will read all comments at the upcoming meeting. Thank you for lending your support and being a part of a solution that will benefit all of us.

Stephanie Myers
Co-op President

Michelle Lucio
Co-op President

Don Wheat
Mens' Club President

