

# GREENVILLE FIRE DISTRICT

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
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## **RE: Greenville Fire District Comments on Emergency Vehicle Accessibility at School Campuses**

The Fire District is always in favor of having direct and unobstructed access to the school facilities for our responses in the event of an emergency incident. The Fire District, as part of its overall assessment of safety and access, consistently observes frequent, and at times severe, access restrictions that hamper first responder's ability to quickly provide emergency staff and needed equipment to the buildings. This consistently occurs during the morning and afternoon drop-off/pick-up times as well as during the various 'special events' (i.e. Back-to-School Nights, conferences, theatrical and musical productions, sports events, E-Day, etc.). These access impairments become exaggerated in inclement weather. Incidental street parking or parking in marked fire zones on sites that may be present, irrespective of attempts to control this issue, further compound restricted emergency vehicle access.

Given the current discussions regarding traffic patterns, parking, and improvements to the current School facilities, the Fire District would be remiss if it did not voice it's concerns while in the planning or budgeting phases of any proposed capital improvements. As a result, the opportunity for the community to address any needed improvements to traffic flow and on-site parking with the goal of removing impediments to emergency vehicle access, while in this planning phase, would be strongly recommended.

As first responders to our community, we remain a continued source of input and guidance during this planning and budgeting phase to both the community at-large and the School District. The Fire District remains fully committed to be available for the review of any changes or improvements to on-site traffic flow and parking at each of the three school sites. The Fire District believes that the on-site traffic flow and parking improvements by the School District will improve the ability of responders to quickly and safely provide emergency services.

Regards,



Walter Groden  
Chair, Board of Fire Commissioners  
Greenville Fire District