11.18.2024

TO Minidoka County School Board

FROM Stacy Tyler

CC None

RE School Bus Pick-up and Drop-off at Meadowbrook Subdivision

Memo

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

I am hopeful that I speak for several parents of students residing at Meadowbrook Subdivision, Paul, ID, in stating my concerns about the safety of our children. I understand the new policy implemented this year by the bus barn/drivers states that buses will not enter subdivisions, but rather pick up and drop children off on main roads. I am requesting an exception to this rule due to safety concerns.

This pick-up/drop-off location exists on State Hwy 25 at the transition of the 55-mph speed limit down to 35 mph at the edge of town. This occurs as vehicles travel down-hill, with the hill blocking the visual of the bus stop until vehicles are at the top of the hill. For drop-offs after school (west-bound bus), students exiting the bus cross this lane of traffic (east-bound coming into Paul). Additionally, we are entering the time of year where road conditions may further decrease visibility and/or limit a driver's ability to slow and stop with icy road surfaces.

Based off at least one conversation with the bus barn, the new rule regarding buses entering sub-divisions has to do with time (number of drop off's) and limited space due to street width/parked cars. I am NOT requesting multiple drop-offs, rather that the bus pull off the main highway into the sub-division entrance. All students can be picked-up/dropped off together to walk to their respective residences. This portion of the subdivision has a divider in the center of the street and cars are never parked on the street. There is ample room for the bus driver to do a U-turn at this location, which alleviates the second concern.

Please consider advising the bus barn to make an exception to their sub-division pick-up and drop-off rule for Meadowbrook. There are up to a dozen kids being dropped off at this location from one bus. We understand that students should be taught to watch for cars, but there are a lot of factors that line up at this location with a potentially catastrophic outcome.

Thank you,
Stacy Tyler
Concerned Parent

STACY TYLER

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