

Manning center mayhem

Here at Prep, carpool traffic seems to be an ongoing issue. As hard as it is to get to school on time in the mornings, afternoon traffic is also a nightmare. What do you do when an entire school of junior high and high school students plus parents are all trying to leave Prep at one time? You get frustrated.

Ever since football season ended, we have been hearing a lot of complaints about the moms who park by the Manning Center blocking students from getting out. Students will get to their cars at 3:10 and not leave campus until 3:30, which is quite ridiculous. Lots of Prep students have jobs after school they have to get to, and when they aren't leaving the parking lot until 3:30 or later, they get paid less and get in trouble by their boss.

Also, some students have requirements after school that they have to get to at 3:30 such as tutoring, lessons, or sports events. Due to the schedule change, most people set their schedules based on getting out at 3:00. Now, they had to move their schedule to be there at around 3:30, but if they get out of the parking lot at that time, they are always late. Not knowing that it would take 25 minutes

to get out of the parking lot, now they can not move requirements to a later time because most places are booked.

As hard as it is to get to school on time in the mornings, afternoon traffic is also a nightmare. What do you do when an entire school of junior high and high school students plus parents are all trying to leave Prep at one time?

One solution we considered is to stop allowing parents to park in front of students' cars until their kids arrive, because we want to leave too. If you are parking your car behind ours, it makes us late to wherever we are required to be after school. As a solution, we suggest blocking off the entrance to the Manning center with cones, and then parents can go through the regular carpool line to pick up their kids on the corner of Guyton. Another option would

be sending the kids to the Junior High, where they should be, so the high schoolers can get out of their parking spots.

Of course, avoiding frustration would be ideal. The parking lot at Prep is big, but never big enough. Senior athletes park in the Manning Center parking lot, while the rest of the senior high drivers park in the senior high parking lot.

The junior high parking lot has some of the leftover sophomore drivers do not have a place in the senior high parking area. When everyone is trying to leave Prep at once, it is almost impossible to avoid the traffic. There are 3 front exits to leave Prep from. Most people use two of three exits, so that leaves only two exits for hundreds of people to leave from.

Perhaps if the junior high got out at 3 instead of 3:10, it would allow the junior high moms to get out of the parking lot before all the high school students are let out.

These are just a few suggestions we think would solve the problem of parking lot traffic after school.



The Manning Center parking lot at approximately 2:45 P.M., 25 minutes before school lets out.