

September 18, 2008

Dear Parents,

Please file this under the saying, “No Good Deed Goes Unpunished.” As you may know, students have been asked for years to bring a book to read while they are waiting for their buses to be called at the end of the day. Students may have to wait up to 20 minutes before their bus arrives. The reading policy serves two purposes.

1. Foster a child’s reading skills
2. Serves as a subtle crowd control.

Recently, several parents have called to ask if the children could begin working on their homework while waiting in the bus lines. After giving this some thought, I approved this request. This has been allowed now for a little over a week. Problems have come up with this decision. Children’s homework is coming in messy because sitting on the floor is not conducive to a proper penmanship position. Many students are copying each other’s work. It is taking longer for the children to get ready when their bus is called. Pencils are being carried outside of backpacks causing a potential hazard. The noise level has increased significantly. Lastly, many teachers have expressed concern about the concept of homework needing to be done at HOME and checked by parents. (An argument, in retrospect, I must fully endorse.) Therefore, effective Monday, September 22, 2008, we will be returning to our original policy of quiet reading only while waiting in the bus lines.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Michael T. Luce