Dear Parent/Guardian,

Student safety is always the number one priority at Buffett. In a continual effort to ensure that all students being dropped off in the morning at the main entrance (5/6 grades) and bus loop (7/8 grades) are safe, Buffett is changing the traffic arrival pattern starting February 17, 2015. The changes are based on the recommendations of the City of Omaha Traffic Division, Omaha Public School's Risk Management Department, and parent input.

Beginning February 17, 2015, there will be two “single lane drop-off only” lanes in the main entrance for 5th and 6th graders and one “single lane drop-off only” lane in the bus loop for 7th and 8th grade students. Please see attachment for maps of new AM arrival traffic pattern and drop-off procedures.

In the main entrance, an additional crosswalk will be added to the second “single lane drop-off only” lane and will connect with the current crosswalk for safe crossing. There will also be another supervisor at the second crosswalk to help students and staff cross safely. At the bus loop, Officer Mahoney will continue to direct buses and cars to a “single drop-off only” lane.

A few things to remember about dropping off your student:

- Students should ALWAYS exit the vehicle from the passenger/curb-side. This is the best way to ensure the safety of your student.
- When your student is safely on the sidewalk, please slowly leave the drop-off area. A backlog of cars develops when parents wait until their student enters the building. Please leave the drop-off area and move into a parking space if you choose to watch your student enter the building.
- Please do not park or leave your vehicle standing in the drop-off area as it creates a backlog of cars that need to move past the front of the building. If you need to come into the building, even for a few moments, please pull your car into a parking space.
- Please consider carpooling, avoiding congestion between 7:30 AM and 7:40 AM, and using an alternate drop off location, such as Flatland Church, Larimore Avenue or 140th Street.

To avoid congestion at the main entrance and bus loop, please consider dropping your student off on the sidewalk at 140th Street or Larimore Avenue. Students can use the sidewalk to safely walk to their designated entrance. In addition, Flatland Church located on the north side of Larimore and east of 144th Street, has offered the use of their parking lot to drop off or pick up your student. Please remind your student to safely cross Larimore Avenue by following Officer Mahoney’s crossing signals.

Thank you for supporting and adhering to the new traffic pattern in the morning. With over 1,200 students being dropped off every morning, we know it may be an adjustment; however, using a “single lane drop-off” will help reduce the risk of personal injury and ensure the safety of all students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rony Ortega, Principal
Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School