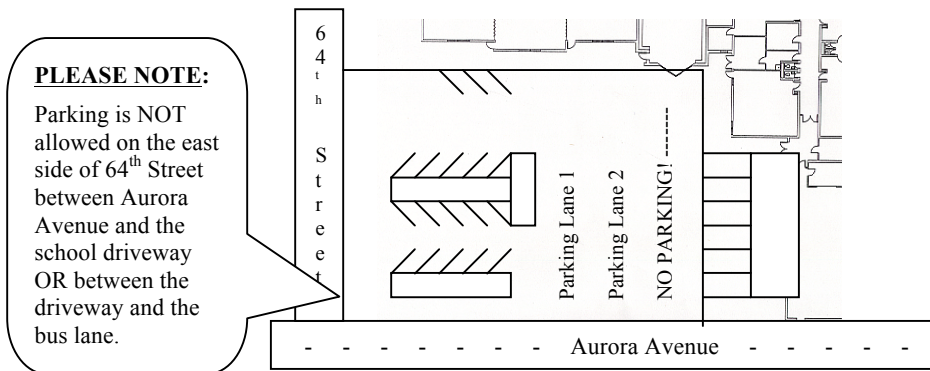


August 14, 2013

Dear Jensen Families:

With over 220 students at Jensen Elementary School, arrival and dismissal times can be a little hectic. The greatest amount of confusion can come at the end of the day when many of our families are coming to pick up their children in their own personal vehicles. During this time, our parking lot is filled to capacity and leaves little opportunity for vehicles to enter or leave the lot.

After talking with Jensen staff and several parents, I have made the decision to return to using our Jensen parking lot for after school pick-up. In doing so, there are several things we all must keep in mind. Keeping one lane open at ALL times would allow emergency vehicles to enter our lot in the event that such assistance would be necessary. While we certainly would hope that such an event would never happen, we must first be thoughtful about the safety of our students, staff, and visitors as well. As a result, we are asking that parents park in two lanes for pick-up, starting on the west side of the entrance to the middle lane (*see visual below*).



For the benefit of both new and returning Jensen families, I would like to clarify our parking rules and offer new or different solutions for safe and quick pick-up of students. These suggestions are below:

- 1) You may still use the Jensen parking lot to pick up your child. You may only use the two lanes (indicated in the map) for pick-up. If the lot is full when you arrive, you are asked to circle the block until an opening is available. Do not remain waiting in a parked position on Aurora Avenue! YOU MAY NOT DRIVE THROUGH THE NO PARKING LANE!
- 2) Parents picking up students are encouraged to talk with their child about two other locations that would work as well. Those locations are:
  - 64<sup>th</sup> Street NORTH of the bus pick up zone (east side of street along the playground).
  - Across Aurora in the Merle Hay Office Plaza parking lot (in the northwest corner by the crosswalk in front of Jensen). Students may cross at the light with the crossing guard and meet you in the parking lot.

We are continuously working to improve our parking situation and make it safe for ALL families. School staff will be outside to monitor parking as much as possible in the coming weeks to ensure that families observe these new parking rules. I will also work with families through the PTO to explain our new parking. I appreciate your understanding as we address this issue and thank you in advance for your patience as we learn these parking routines to help keep children safe.

Mark Lane, Principal  
Jensen Elementary School