



John R. Russo
Chief of Police
2013

Tuesday, September 03,

Faculty, Students, and Parents

I would first like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you as the recently appointed Chief of Police for the Rutherford Police Department. I look forward to a productive relationship with each of you, and hope to assist in making the schools of Rutherford part of a safer and more enjoyable environment for our students to learn. In doing so, I would like to make you aware of changes that you may witness during the school year this upcoming fall.

First, as discussions continue on how to make the streets surrounding Union School safer and more conducive to student drop-offs and pick-ups, I have assured the Rutherford School Superintendent, Dr. Rosemary Jones that the Rutherford Police Department will take a more proactive approach in regards to enforcement. It is my opinion that strict enforcement on a more routine basis will help make the drop-off and pick-up processes safer for your children while simultaneously easing traffic congestion in affected areas. While enforcement is just part of the larger solution that needs to be agreed upon, I do believe it will assist in the ultimate goal of student safety. This enforcement will not be limited to Union School, and you should expect to see similar enforcement in the areas of all Rutherford schools.

When dropping off and picking up on Belford Avenue, please ensure that your children are exiting and entering your vehicles on the driver's side to prevent them from walking in between vehicles. Also, do not obstruct the flow of traffic on any of the through streets surrounding the schools. If you require visual confirmation that your child entered any school building, or you arrive early at any school to wait for your child's dismissal, please find a proper parking space in the surrounding area and walk to the school. There should be no parking along the yellow curb.

I will be requesting assistance with these issues from the Board of Education and hopefully we can see the progress that is needed. I encourage your cooperation with these very important issues and wish you a safe and happy summer and school year.

John R. Russo
Rutherford Police Department

184 Park Avenue - Rutherford, New Jersey 07070
Chief of Police, Rutherford Police Department
Telephone: (201) 460-3044 - Fax: (201) 460-3009
www.rutherford-nj.com
jrusso@rutherfordpd.com