

Standard Reunification Method

Student/Parent Reunification (SRM)

Student/Parent Reunification

Circumstances may occur at the school that require parents to pick up their students in a formalized, controlled release. The process of controlled release is called a reunification and may be necessary due to weather, a power outage, hazmat or if a crisis occurs at the school. The Standard Reunification Method is a protocol that makes this process more predictable and less chaotic for all involved. Because a controlled release is not a typical end of school day event, a reunification may occur at a different location than the school a student attends. If this location is another school, then those students may be subject to a controlled release as well.

Notification

Parents may be notified in a number of ways. The school or district may use its broadcast phone or text message system. A reunification text message from Central Office will be sent out with specific instructions on where and when to pick up your children. You will also be asked to bring your photo ID.

Parent/Guardian Expectations

If a parent or guardian is notified that a controlled release and reunification is needed, there are some expectations that parents or guardians should be aware of. First, bring identification. That will streamline things during reunification. Second, be patient. Reunification is a process that protects both the safety of the student and provides for an accountable change of custody from the school to a recognized custodial parent or guardian.

What if a Parent Can't Pick-up Their Student?

When a parent can't immediately go to the reunification site, students will only be released to individuals previously identified as a student's emergency contact. Otherwise the school will hold students until parents can pick up their student.

What if the Student Drove to School?

There may be instances where a student may not be allowed to remove a vehicle from the parking lot. Therefore; parents are required to recover their child. Under no circumstances will a high school student be released on their own once the reunification protocols are implemented.

How it Works

For students, the school asks that students be orderly and quiet when waiting. Students may be asked to text a message to their parent or guardians. Students are also asked not to send other text messages either in or out of the school or reunification area. Keeping the cellular network usage at a minimum may be important during a reunification.

Reunification Cards

For parents, there are a couple of steps. If a parent is driving to the school, greater awareness of traffic and emergency vehicles is advised. Parents should park where indicated and not abandon

vehicles, Parents are asked to go to the Reunification “check-in” area and form lines based on the first letter of their student’s last name. School personnel will check parents in by verification using identification such as a driver’s license and/or other personal identification. Parents will receive a print out of their emergency form to be given to the Reunification Check In.

Bring ID to Check In

During check in, identification and custody rights are confirmed. From the “check in” area parents are directed to the “reunification” area. There, a runner will take the emergency form and take it to the Student Assembly Area to recover the student or students. Parents should be aware that in some cases, they may be invited into the building for further information.

Interviews and Counseling

In some cases, parents may be advised that a law enforcement investigation is underway and may be advised that interviews are necessary. In extreme cases, parents may be pulled aside for emergency or medical attention.

- Sycamore Drive ECLC, Middle Road School, Raritan Valley School, Beers Street School, Cove Road School, Lillian Drive School and Raritan High School will implement the Controlled Release Reunification protocols at Hazlet Middle School in the event of an emergency.
- Hazlet Middle School will implement the Controlled Release Reunification protocols at Raritan High School in the event of an emergency.

See below the side link of our webpage to access the form. Forms were sent home with students on the first week of school to be returned by 9/13/16.