

*“It is characteristic of all deep human problems that they are not to be approached without some humor and some bewilderment.”*

**Freeman Dyson**

# Grey Matters

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While the November elections are still a few weeks away, I want to make sure you are aware of the impact of elections on student drop off that morning. For those of you who may not already be aware, the town of Acton has made some changes to the election precinct locations. For this next election, Tuesday November 7th, all precincts will vote at RJG. To address this increase in traffic flow at our school, the morning traffic pattern around the building will be significantly modified. Specifically, Charter Road will be blocked off for all traffic between 6:45AM and 8AM and will be reserved for school buses only. Although bus transportation will proceed as normal, parents and guardians will only have access to the campus from Rt. 111, by the Blanchard Gym entrance, and student drop off will only be allowed in the lower lot. **There will be no access to the front loop.**

This one day change will likely result in a traffic delay on Route 111 and difficulty entering the campus. Please plan your morning and drive to school accordingly. As always, your patience and cooperation will make this very important day as relaxed as possible.

At our Back to School night, we passed out an Opening Days of School Feedback Form in which we asked about your child’s experiences during the first few weeks of school as well as our summer communication. I’d like to thank the parents and guardians who completed and submitted the form (paper or online). I was pleased to see that the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. While there were a variety of individual comments, we were able to identify the following themes:

## **Positive feedback:**

- 1) The teachers are nice
- 2) After having started school, students are feeling very comfortable and happy
- 3) Lots of information was sent home prior to start of school

## Examples:

*“We’re off to a great start. All went smoothly – we really have no suggestion for improvement!”*

*“The teachers are nice”*

*“She was very much excited. She loves the school and teachers”*

*“The entire RJ Grey teams are professional, caring and qualified”*

*“We know and she knows that she is getting a good education. Thank you, thank you”*

**Feedback for consideration:**

- 1) Lockers difficult to open and fit everything in
- 2) Team supply lists not available until after school began
- 3) Backpacks too heavy

Examples:

*“School supply list was provided generically before the start of school, but difficult to know how much to purchase ahead of time”*

*“A more specific supply list before class starts so we can prepare earlier”  
Child was “negative about some specific things—primarily the size of the lockers and the lack of space. He had no problem with the locks, but his [locker] jammed one or two times. Also no room for his lunch, a jacket etc.”*

*“I think that you need to do something about the back pack situation. The required binders are way too heavy”*

We greatly appreciate all the positive words of support and will take a look at the ways in which we can address the areas of concern. If you did not get a chance to complete the feedback form, it is not too late. The form is still available on our website. A paper copy can be picked up at our main office as well.

If your child missed picture day or did not like their picture, make-up **Picture Day has been changed to Thursday, October 28th.**

Lastly, I want to thank for following parents for participating on this year’s School Council: Karyn Finamore, Lisa Gundlack, Kathleen McDonagh, John Murray, and Francesca Ricciardi.

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