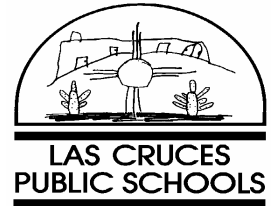


# News Release



Immediate Release

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## Church Helps Camino Real M.S. With After-School Student Pick Up

LAS CRUCES – Camino Real Middle School is partnering with its neighbor, Morning Star

United Methodist Church (UMC) of Las Cruces, to make additional parking available for

parents of students

who participate in

after-school

programs at CRMS.

The Positive  
Action for



Wildcats' Safety (PAWS) program created jointly by CRMS and the church will help make

after-school pickup safer for students and less congested for parents and other drivers on

Roadrunner Parkway, where both the school and the church are located.

“CRMS only has one access in and out of our school. That means buses, staff vehicles and parent vehicles travel in and out of this one-lane road every day,” said CRMS Principal Angie Holguin-Dotson. “We only have one parking lot (about 100 spaces) and it is filled with staff vehicles. When parent vehicles come in, it is tough to find parking, so parents only have space to park on the curb. As cars come in and park on the curb, other cars cannot come in until the traffic moves. That means traffic backs up on Roadrunner and creates quite a traffic jam.

The church for the past year has allowed parents to park in their parking lot and wait for their kids there. I appreciate the help we are getting from the church,” she said.

“This is a wonderful example of a partnership between the schools and our community that helps our kids,” said LCPS Superintendent Stan Rounds. “Morning Star UMC is helping us deal with a problem that has existed for some years because of the rapid population growth in that part of Las Cruces. It’s great that we have a neighbor like Morning Star that is willing to help us address this safety issue at Camino Real Middle School,” said Rounds.



*“I appreciate the help we are getting from the church,” said Camino Real Middle School Principal Angie Holguin-Dotson.*

The PAWS program was started by the school and the church “to promote positive actions through clear, concise safety guidelines for using the church’s parking lot as a designated area for after-school pick-up of CRMS students,” according to the PAWS handbook.

Parents who want to participate in PAWS must pick up a copy of the handbook and sign a form and submit it to the church. The church parking lot can accommodate 60 vehicles, so the first 60 people who return the waiver form will be eligible to participate in the PAWS program.



*“It’s great that we have a neighbor like Morning Star that is willing to help us address this safety issue,” said LCPS Stan Rounds*

PAWS is sending a letter to CRMS parents this week about the program, said LCPS Security and Safety Coordinator Todd Gregory.

CRMS is located at 2961 Roadrunner Parkway. Morning Star United Methodist Church is located at 2941 Roadrunner Parkway, just south of the school.

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