

Issues Surrounding the Improvements to the Kennard-Dale High School Emergency Exit

- Students leaving the front entrance and traveling west on Rt 851 are currently turning right on Brown Rd, turning left of Thompson Road and then left on New Park Road, traveling at excessive speeds to race the busses to the New Park intersection. If the back exit is used full time, instead of having a handful of cars racing the busses they all will be. This creates a very dangerous situation, not only on the road itself but at the intersections of Brown and Thompson, Thompson and New Park and New Park and Rt 851.
- Thompson Road west of the where the rear access road comes out is mostly unpaved and is only wide enough for 1 car to travel safely. There is a bus stop at the intersection of Brown and Thompson. Children are walking east on Thompson Road after getting off the bus and are mostly turning left onto Kunkle Road. Cars traveling west on Thompson cannot see over the hill at cars or pedestrians coming east.
- Thompson Road is frequently in a state of very poor conditions. Pot holes, washout tranches and dust are a common thing. Increasing the traffic will make this problem much worse and put a burden of maintenance on Fawn Borough and Fawn Township.
- Vehicles turning right onto Thompson Road will have the decision of making a right or a left onto Market Street. Making a left will take the majority of traffic several miles out of their way. Making a right will put them at the square in Fawn Grove and the vehicles traveling west will wind up back in front of the schools. This does nothing to alleviate any congestion on Rt 851. It will actually make it worse.
- When this emergency exit was created, the public was told that it would never be used full time. When Kennard-Dale was built several years ago now, workers leaving the jobsite would travel west on Thompson Road at excessive speeds. This should show us what it will be like should that exit be used full time.
- There is absolutely nothing that prevents this exit from being used in emergency. If the District is being told to have two exits, then why is this exit not sufficient?
- The estimated \$80,000 for improvements is for the intersection of Market Street and Thompson Road. This does not include the funds that would be needed to make the necessary improvements to Thompson Road leading to the back entrance, nor does it include the funds required to improve the back entrance itself. The preliminary figure I was told was \$250,000 for the entire project.