

SAFETY FIRST AT DROP-OFF/PICKUP

“Rules of the Road” at Riverside School

Please read this document carefully as rules have changed due to increased safety protocols in place to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Dear Parents, Your child(ren)’s safety is our #1 concern at Riverside School. We continue to witness **unsafe actions by drivers** during the busy times of drop-off and pickup that put children and adults in danger of injury and property in danger of damage. The intent of the “Rules of the Road” is to create a safe environment for all.

Carefully read the rules below, and put them into practice at all times during drop-off and pickup. Please share these rules with your spouse, caregiver, grandparents, or anyone else who may be dropping off or picking up your child from school. This is about the safety of our kids! Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this important matter.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

- 1) For this school year, **all adults and children (over the age of 2) should be wearing a mask** (that covers the nose and mouth) as they enter or leave the Riverside School property and as they exit their cars to walk towards the school and back at any time for safety.
- 2) Please **be aware of pedestrians and bike riders** around the school. Use indicator lights, which signal your intended route to those around you.
- 3) **NO TEXTING** – It should go without saying how dangerous this is at any time while operating a vehicle. And yet it still happens with shocking regularity at school drop-off and pickup. Don’t set this unsafe example for our children.

MORNING DROP-OFF

- 1) DRIVERS STAY IN CAR WHEN USING FRONT DRIVEWAY - Drivers MUST stay in the car in the driveway. Only children exit.
- 2) PARK LEGALLY - If you need to get out of the car, find a LEGAL parking spot, park, and then do so. **There are no legal parking spots in the front driveway!**
- 3) CURB SIDE EXIT - Children may ONLY exit from the passenger side of the car.
- 4) NO LEFT LANE EXIT - Do not drop off your child from the left lane of the driveway.
- 5) NEVER BACK UP - Never back up in the driveway. This is extremely unsafe for kids, you, and your car.
- 6) NO LINGERING - After your child exits the car, promptly leave the driveway SAFELY – use blinkers!
- 7) NO DRIVEWAY PARKING - Never park your car in the driveway at any time of day.
- 8) NO VOLUNTEER HELP THIS YEAR - As there will be no parent volunteers this year to help students get out of the car, be prepared before entering the driveway. Your child(ren) should have their mask on as they leave the car and have all their belongings in hand, ready to head directly to their grade level's entry door on their own.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP

- 1) DRIVEWAY PICK-UP ONLY FOR GRADES 3-5 - Only children in grades 3-5 are permitted to walk to a car in the driveway. Parents of children in grades K-2 are required to park elsewhere and meet their child at their dismissal door.
- 2) DRIVERS STAY IN CAR - Drivers MUST stay in the car while waiting in the driveway. Please don’t leave your engine running on idle; it pollutes the air our children breathe.
- 3) NO LINGERING - Once your child is in the car, promptly exit the driveway SAFELY – use blinkers! Please, no chatting!
- 4) NO LEFT LANE PICKUP – The left lane is for passing only. Do NOT block it or have your child walk to it!
- 5) PARK LEGALLY – There are many legal parking spots around the school and on nearby side streets - all within easy walking distance to the school. Please use these legal spots even if it means the extra few minutes might make you late for an appointment or practice. And please no parking in the reserved spots near the gym (marked with the Family name). This applies at all times, not just at pickup and drop-off. And no parking in handicap spaces unless you have a permit to do so – it’s illegal. **There are no legal parking spots in the front driveway!**
- 6) DO NOT BLOCK PARKING LOT – Do not block legally parked cars in the parking lot. This is a recurring problem at Riverside School and it is inconsiderate and blocks traffic for all. Please keep moving or just park in a legal spot on a side street and walk over. Do not create “one more parking spot” at the end of a row.