

# TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

## TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Each year, families develop their transportation plan for their children, whether it be walking or biking, drop off/pick up by car, or taking the bus. **We adhere strictly to the daily plan that children have, and will not allow them to deviate unless we are informed by a phone call or note from a parent/guardian.** Children often wish to change their plan to play with a friend after school; however, we will not permit them to do so without prior notification. There are few things more frightening to any of us than an unaccounted-for child, and the safe arrival and departure of our students is of the utmost importance.

## WALKING TO SCHOOL

- Please plan the safest route for your children to walk. It is helpful and reassuring if you are able to practice the route before the first time the child needs to walk without an adult. Whenever possible, children should walk with friends and neighbors - it is more fun and safer.
- When crossing any street, walk straight across, not diagonally.
- Whenever possible, students should use marked crosswalks.
- If there are no sidewalks, walk as near the edge of the roadway as possible, facing traffic. Don't bunch up or walk in the center of the road.

WE ASK THAT CHILDREN NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 8:25 A.M. CHILDREN ARE TO LINE UP IMMEDIATELY IN THE MORNING - THERE IS TO BE NO PLAYING ON THE PLAYGROUND BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS FOR SUPERVISION AND SAFETY REASONS.

## CAR DROP OFFS/PICK-UPS

Please drive and walk with caution through the parking lot – it is a busy place, with children and families spread throughout. Drivers should maintain a low speed, and always on the lookout for children.

To improve traffic flow through our parking lot, we utilize student patrols to open and close vehicle doors and direct traffic at the beginning and end of each day. We have two load/unload zones; drivers will be waved to an empty zone, and a patrol will open and shut the right, rear passenger door. If you need to get out to assist your child with large or heavy items, please park in a space in the lot.

If your child is not waiting at the pick-up point, please continue looping so as not to block traffic. Children are not to walk through the parking lot unaccompanied to find their parent. Also, please do not park in the bus zone in the front or back of the school.

## SAFETY PATROL

Fifth and sixth grade students serve as patrol persons. They have a large responsibility to safely cross children. They are on duty from 8:15 a.m. - 8:35 a.m. and from 2:55 - 3:05 p.m. On Early Dismissal days they are on duty at dismissal from 11:15-11:25 a.m.

### Supervised Crosswalks

1. 155th & 27th
2. 158th & 27th (in front of Briarcrest)
3. 158th & 28th
4. 158th & 30th

- The safety patrol crossings are not manned during lunch. All students should eat lunch at school with exceptions only by special arrangements.
- Students are expected to go directly home after school, unless they are participating in a scheduled after school activity. If they remain at school as a volunteer helper, or to make up work, the teacher and parent must agree on a departure plan. PLEASE PLAN WITH YOUR CHILD TO INFORM YOU THE DAY BEFORE ABOUT AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. An occasional call may be necessary, but daily "reminder" calls tie up the office telephone.

## **BIKE RIDING REGULATIONS**

**Students need to have a Bicycle Permit Slip signed and turned in before riding bikes to school. The permit is available in the office. Only students in grades 3-6 are allowed to ride their bikes to school.**

1. Keep bicycle locked and parked at school until dismissal time each day.
2. Wear a bicycle helmet.
3. Keep to the right and off the road when there is room provided.
4. Obey all traffic signs (i.e. STOP signs).
5. Do not ride double.
6. Keep at least one hand on the handle bars.
7. Give hand and arm signals.
8. Ride not more than two abreast (single file is safer).
9. Walk bike across School Patrol crossings.
10. Do not hitch on to any motor vehicle.
11. Yield right-of-way to all pedestrians.
12. Walk bike when entering or leaving school grounds.
13. Do not ride bike on school grounds until after 4:00 p.m.

## **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

School buses are operated for those children living 1 mile or more from school, or in certain areas where hazardous walking conditions exist. Every effort is made to live up to the motto of the transportation department "Safety, Comfort, and a Reasonable Amount of Promptness" (in that order).

A Bus Conduct Report will constitute a major offense and the consequences will be enforced as described in the BC Discipline Ladder.

**IMPORTANT! ALL BUS RIDERS ARE EXPECTED TO RIDE THE BUS DAILY** unless we have a note indicating the child has parental permission to go to another destination after school. If your child needs to take a different bus home, inform the school by a note or a telephone call as early as possible as authorization will have to be given to the bus driver. Notes are valid for one day at a time.

- The Bus Loading zone for Briarcrest is located on NE 155th St. Please do not pick up your child at the end of the day at this location. Children riding home by car should be picked up in the school parking lot in front of the school (off of NE 158th St.).