

Pick-Up/Drop-Off Procedures for Kennedy Jr. High

Welcome Kennedy families! I am offering the following as our drop-off procedures for the 2021-2022 school year. Please take a moment to read them before you drop your child off in front of the school. *Safety is our priority.*

Use the Circle Drive for Drop-Off

Kennedy Junior High is designed with a circle drive that is used for drop-off. This is separate from the parking lot. The drop off lane in front of Kennedy Junior High flows one-way (east to west). Upon entering the lot, you will notice that the entrance was designed to accommodate two lanes of traffic. This was done to help relieve congestion/back-ups on Green Trails Drive. Once inside the entrance, the two lanes merge into one along the front of the school.

Pull Forward: Drop-Off Utilizes the Entire Length of the School

Once you arrive in front of the school, we ask that you resist the temptation to stop in front of the main doors. Instead, pull forward as far as possible or until you reach the sign that reads, “**Student Drop-Off Starts Here**”. Stopping in front of the school when there is room to pull forward will cause needless backups since precious curb space in front of you will be wasted at the time of day when there is most demand for it. This has a residual effect that causes backups that remain long after you leave and will extend all the way to Green Trails Drive. When this happens, it will hinder your exit time because traffic cannot flow freely out of the school while Green Trails Drive is gridlocked.

Left Lane is for Drop-Off; Right Lane is for Exiting

Pick-up and drop-off is to be done in the left lane (closest to the building) only. After dropping your child off, pull into the right lane when it is safe to do so, and exit the lot. If motorists cooperate, a full line of cars (15-25 vehicles) will be able to pull forward, drop off their children, and exit the lot while the next line of cars will advance forward to do the same. When this becomes a daily habit, it works very well. Unfortunately it takes only one driver to disrupt an otherwise smooth process. If the car in front of you drops their child outside the designated drop-off area, do not follow their example. Simply go around them and pull up as far as you can or wait until they leave. Last year most of the extended wait times were caused by motorists not following these simple instructions.

The Parking Lot is for Parking & Entering the Building

Generally speaking, the parking lot is not to be used as a drop off area. This is unsafe. We recognize there are special circumstances when a student needs to be dropped off closer to the front door. In these instances (injuries, crutches, illnesses, etc.) feel free to use the parking lot to drop off your child and assist them into the building if necessary. If you need to enter the building, then use the parking lot.

Be Alert

We have only two goals while directing traffic in front of the school; the **safety** of your children, and keeping your morning wait time to a minimum. You will find that if everyone uses the drop-off area appropriately, you will reduce your time spent waiting in line. Please drive slowly and watch for pedestrians and bicyclists. Cell phone use in school zones is illegal and citations will continue to be written if cell phone activity is observed. Additionally, please be alert for staff personnel who are directing traffic and ensuring safe procedures.