



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

Welcome Kennedy families! I am offering the following as our drop-off procedures for the 2014-15 school year. Please take a moment to read them before you drop your child off in front of the school as this can be the most frustrating part of your school day (but it doesn't have to be.)

The traffic lanes in front of Kennedy Junior High flow one-way (east to west). They have been 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. 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 while there room to pull forward **will cause needless backups** because precious curb space in front of you will be wasted at the time of day when there is most demand for it. These backups will 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.

Pick-up and drop-off is to be done in the left lane (closest to the building) only. There are usually staff members in front of the building to assist you. 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 advance forward to do the same. When this becomes a daily habit, it works very well, but unfortunately it takes only one driver to disrupt an otherwise smooth process. Even 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.

Generally speaking, the parking lot is not to be used as a drop off area. 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.

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. Have a great school year!

Officer Robert Sommer #464