

MYRTLE PHILIP COMMUNITY SCHOOL: TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY (January 23, 2018)

GET TO SCHOOL SAFELY: *Our top priority is the safety of our students.*

Whether you're headed to school, or just trying to get where you're going:

- **Plan ahead.** Give yourself more time to travel. Fewer cars in the school area reduce conflict, so avoid driving into a congested school area if you can walk, carpool or bus your children instead.
- **Slow down.** Obey 30 km/hr speed limits in school and playground zones.
- **Pay attention.** Set aside distractions, and please respect and follow the laws. Distracted driving and impatient actions put our students at risk.

DRIVING IN SCHOOL ZONES:

DO:

- Drive lawfully and safely, without distraction - your behaviour is a model for your children
- Obey **30 km/hr** School Zone and Playground Zone speed limits
- Yield for pedestrians in crosswalks
- Obey posted "No Stopping" and "No Parking" signs. Pick-up and drop-off only means no parking. Please park somewhere else if you plan to linger, help your child out of the car or walk them to the door, etc..
- Encourage children to cross only at designated crosswalks and to look both ways before crossing the street

DON'T:

- **Don't block crosswalks, driveways, or fire hydrants**
- **Don't** make a U-Turn, back up, or use driveways to turn around - these moves can put kids at risk
- **Don't** pass stopped vehicles - there may be a child crossing the street

STOP & DROP:

DO:

- During morning drop off and afternoon pick up, **STOP & DROP ONLY** in the bus and main entrance zones

DON'T:

- **Don't** get out of your car - If you need more time, please park in the lot
- **Don't park** in the bus zone or around the middle roundabout or at the main entrance of the school

WALK OR CYCLE SAFELY: Walking and cycling to school helps reduce traffic congestion and improves safety. The more people walk, the safer the school area is for walking. Beginning and ending the school day with active transportation is good for your body and your brain, plus it's a fun way to cut down on greenhouse gas emissions for a cleaner environment. If you walk or wheel in a school zone, make sure you look, listen, and can be seen.

DO:

- **Look** out for yourself, and pay attention to your surroundings
- **Listen** and walk or ride without distraction (for example, not while text messaging)
- **Dress to be seen.** Wear bright clothing or backpacks.
- Look both ways and cross only at designated crosswalks and be extra cautious at intersections
- Be safe, but enjoy yourself!

DON'T:

- **Don't** assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers before crossing.
- **Don't** enter the road unexpectedly.

BUS OR CARPOOL: If you are on the school bus route, please take the bus whenever possible. Or choose to carpool or use active transportation options (such as walking), which helps reduce congestion and increase safety in our school zones during busy pick-up and drop-off times.

DRIVE 2 FIVE: "Drive 2 Five" by parking a 5-minute distance away from school and walking with your child before or after school, meet them at school and walk back to the car together. A walk is a great time to connect with your child and learn something interesting about their day.

Parking and drop off Zones at Myrtle Philip Community School

