Montroyal School Zone Safety

As we head back to school, please make sure that you and your caregivers are familiar with our traffic safety rules to keep all students safe. This year we face the new challenge, the Metro Vancouver Water Main Construction on Capilano Rd which will have traffic re-routed through our neighbours (<u>details</u>) adding increased traffic and time to your daily commute.

We encourage walking or cycling to school to improve students' concentration and overall health, plus with the ongoing construction project it may be faster for students to walk in groups, so parents don't need to add any more time on to their morning. If the walk is greater than 15 minutes; drive to 5, which is driving a few blocks from school and allowing students the chance to get some fresh air and exercise. It is a good idea to remind our students how to be safe pedestrians and cyclists by using - STOP - LOOK and LISTEN while traveling to and from school. <u>ICBC has a great parent guide</u> to assist with your conversation.

When you are driving within our school zone or around town, please follow the rules of the road and be a courteous driver:

- 30 km/h in the school zone.
- Come to a full stop at stop signs.
- Park in designated areas only.
- Watch for pedestrians at crosswalks.
- Montroyal's pick up and drop off zone is not for parking.
- Have your child exit the car on the curb side and do not park on the west side of Sonora Dr. and beckon your child to cross the street. This is extremely dangerous particularly in dark, inclement weather.
- Keep our neighbours' driveways clear, let's be respectful.
- U-turns are not illegal but they are dangerous in school zones, we are on crescent, please drive around.
- Adhere to the instructions of our BCAA traffic patrollers, they are volunteering their time to reduce the risk of accidents.
- The Montroyal parking lot is for staff only.
- Walk around, not through, the staff parking lots.
- If all families followed the suggested traffic flow highlighted on the map with blue arrows between 8am 9am and 230pm 330pm, it would reduce the risk of accidents, and keep traffic flowing.

Drive to 5 Locations and Parking Locations

These are some areas where you can park and walk with your child to school or drop off and they walk with friends:

- Sonora Place cul-de-sac
- Cliffridge Ave before and after the drop off/ pick up zone
- Ranger above the school and walk through the forest
- Sarita Pl. and take trail to Sonora Pl

Drop Off / Pick Up Zone

This is the marked area located in front of the school and traffic is to remain flowing to avoid congestion on Sonora Dr. This is possible if drivers:

- Follow the instructions of our BCAA traffic patrollers.
- Students enter car at the top of the pick-up zone, by the patroller with the stop sign. This prevents cars pulling out unexpectedly or at the same time. The process may take longer but it prevents accidents.
- Ensure backpacks are kept in the back seat.
- Used for students who can enter and exit the car independently.
- Communicate with your child to meet at drop zone at 3:10 this gives them time to get out of class and avoids the need to circle.
- Playdates are arranged by parking and walking to the school yard and not in the pick-up zone.
- Use your indicator and always do a shoulder check to ensure it is safe to pull out of drop off/pick up zone.

Lastly, to protect the young minds and lung working within the school, if you arrive early and park, turn off your car engine to reduce the harmful emissions.

The Traffic Safety program at Montroyal is a joint effort between the School Administration, parent volunteers, and student safety patrollers. This program provides not only a safer place for all of our children during pick-up time at Montroyal, it also provides an opportunity for the student patrollers to learn leadership and teamwork skills, and to develop maturity.