



CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

September 18, 2017

Dear Parents,

School safety is a major focus for the Calgary Police Service and we regularly work with schools, students, parents/caregivers and communities to make the school environment as safe as possible for your child.

One way we do this is by conducting traffic education and enforcement activities at schools in order to ensure that roads around schools are safe for children.

While visiting schools in your area, I have observed some driving behaviours around drop-off and pick-up times that create a hazardous environment for both drivers and pedestrians. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that these behaviours are not only illegal, but are also unsafe.

Some of the problems our officers are seeing include drivers:

- Failing to obey stop signs before entering intersections
- Making unsafe U-turns (i.e. in a crosswalk or between intersections)
- Failing to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk
- Jaywalking
- Parking within 5 metres of an intersection
- Stopping or parking within 1.5 metres of a driveway
- Stopping or parking within 5 metres of a crosswalk
- Stopping or parking in an intersection
- Stopping or parking where it is prohibited by a sign (including in bus zones)
- Double parking (stopping or parallel parking on the road alongside another parked vehicle)
- Leaving a vehicle in the middle of a road
- Stopping or parking in a way that blocks an alley
- Speeding

Complaints have also come from residents in the community expressing their concerns about parents blocking their driveways and parking in front of fire hydrants.

Our goal is to address these issues by working with all stakeholders, first through education and warnings, but also through enforcement when necessary. When enforcement becomes necessary, fines for these offences vary from \$50 to \$775, with demerits for some offences. In

some cases, such as when a driveway is blocked or car is parked illegally, vehicles can be ticketed and towed.

These laws are all in place to ensure that drivers and pedestrians can all easily see each other, and to ensure that traffic flows smoothly through the area. Your commitment to traffic safety by following the rules of the road is greatly appreciated and will help ensure that no one at your school has to experience the catastrophic effects of collisions caused by these traffic violations.

If you have any questions, wish to discuss this matter further, or witness unacceptable driving behavior, please do not hesitate to call or email me.

Sincerely,

Sgt Pete BARKER #4476
CRO/MBU Sergeant
District 8

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