

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

The safety of the students and other drivers in this area is a priority for the Calgary Police Service. I have received concerns from the school and local community members about some troubling driving behaviors around the school. I am hoping you can assist by making this area as safe as possible for everyone.

School start and end times can make the roads very congested. To keep children safe, it is very important everyone obeys the law as defined in Alberta's Traffic Safety Act.

Below you will find a list of the common infractions observed and fines relating to these offences.

- **Illegal U-turn - \$162** - U -turns are illegal between intersections, alley junctions, when prohibited by sign, at traffic signals and when unsafe. The only place to legally do a U-turn is at an intersection not controlled by lights as long as it can be done safely and there is no sign indicating that you can't.
- **Pedestrian J-walk - \$81**- If there is a marked crosswalk on the block, you **MUST** use it to cross. Please help to teach your children the safe way to cross the street and lead by example.
- **Seatbelts! - \$162** - It is an offense to operate a vehicle without wearing a seatbelt or to have children not wearing a seatbelt. Please ensure your child seats are properly secured.
- **Impede/block traffic (double parking) \$155** - Double parking is stopping alongside another vehicle in the middle of a street to drop off your child. This adds to congestion because you are backing up traffic behind you while you let your child out of the vehicle. This also puts your child in a dangerous position as they will be walking between two cars parked after being let out. These vehicles are not expecting little ones to walk behind them and may back up into your child.
- **Distracted driving (use handheld cell phone, etc.) - \$300 + 3 demerits!**
- **Disobey posted signs (includes no stopping zones) - \$243**
- **Fail to yield for pedestrian in crosswalk - \$810**
- **Failing to stop for a stop sign - \$405**
- **Stopping or parking in a bus zone - \$81**
- **Parking in front of or within 1.5 meters of driveway/garage - \$81**

Please consider parking a block or two away and walking with your child to the school and choose an alternate route while driving to help ease congestion in the area.

"Running late" is not an excuse to break the law. Please help safeguard your children and community at large by being courteous and aware obeying the laws.

As any parent would know, your children are watching and learning from everything you do. **It is not ok to teach your children to break the law!**

Please remember to choose safety over convenience!!

Thank you,

Cst. Gary Hartmann

Elementary Education Officer

Start Smart Stay Safe Program S4 Calgary Police Service