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Pedestrian Safety Program

STOP and stay STOPPED



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Bayonne Board of Education
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669 Avenue A
Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

In partnership with the City of Bayonne and the Bayonne Police Department, the Bayonne Board of Education has initiated a **Pedestrian Safety Program**.

It is our goal to get the message out regarding pedestrian safety to all members of the community.

Please review this brochure, which highlights important pedestrian safety facts and tips, with your child.

“School safety” is a top priority. Together, we can make a difference!

Sincerely,

Patricia L. McGeehan, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Pedestrian Safety

(as excerpted from New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety,
Office of the Attorney General, Division of Highway Traffic Safety)

According to the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, New Jersey experiences a disproportionate number of pedestrian injury crashes and fatalities compared to the nation as a whole.

The most important pedestrian safety message for New Jersey residents is: **Pedestrian Safety is a Shared Responsibility**. There is no one cause of crashes involving pedestrians. Pedestrians and motorists must both do their part to keep pedestrians safe.

Pedestrians:

- Always cross at corners, within marked crosswalks where available.
- Look left, right and left again before crossing. Watch for turning cars.
- Obey traffic signals, especially “Walk/Don’t Walk”.
- Remain alert! Don’t assume that cars are going to stop.
- Wear reflective clothing when walking at night.
- Stay sober. Walking while impaired greatly increases your chances of being struck.

Children:

- Cross at intersections only.
- Never cross from in-between parked cars.
- Before crossing, look left, then look right, and left again, and listen for traffic.
- Wear light colored or reflective clothing at night.
- If there is no sidewalk available, walk as far off the roadway as possible on the left side of the road, facing oncoming traffic.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Avoid playing in driveways or on sidewalks near roadways.

Motorists:

- In New Jersey **MUST STOP** for pedestrians in a marked crosswalk. Failure to observe the law may subject you to one or more of the following:

- **2 Points**
- **\$200 Fine (plus court costs)**
- **15 Days Community Service**
- **Insurance Surcharges**

New Jersey Statute 39:4-36

- Watch for pedestrians when turning right on red.
- Use turn signals when turning right or left.
- Obey speed limits.
- Do not block or park in crosswalks.
- Keep your windshield clean for maximum visibility.
- Be alert for pedestrians at all times.

Complaints and violations that occur around schools:

- **Stop for a Stopped School Bus!** New Jersey law requires that the operators of vehicles stop for a school bus while the bus is stopped to discharge or receive children. A vehicle must be stopped at a distance of at least 25 feet from the stopped bus and must remain stationary until the children have entered the bus or reached the side of the street AND the flashing red lights/stop sign are no longer exhibited by the bus. Passing a stopped school bus is very dangerous and is also a serious offense. New Jersey law requires a mandatory court appearance and the violation is punishable by a fine of no less than \$100, jail, or community service for not more than 15 days, or both. In addition, when convicted of this moving violation, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission adds 5 points to your driving record, and violators risk having their license suspended.
- **Obey the Crossing Guards!** They are there for a purpose. Their ONLY concern is the safety of people crossing the street.
- **Speeding!** In a school zone, the speed limit is 25 mph. Safety in a school zone depends on you adhering to this limit.
- **Discharge of passengers!** New Jersey law prohibits passengers from being dropped off or picked up from anywhere except at the curb.
- **Double parking!** Double parking is illegal and dangerous. It creates an extremely hazardous situation particularly during arrival and dismissal times when special care must be exercised to prevent any danger. Police will issue summonses to violators.