



# THE TORCH

## Traffic Safety Edition

March 1, 2019

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

We have observed and have had numerous concerns reported to us throughout the school year regarding safety on campus related to traffic and pedestrians. We ask you to join us in bringing awareness to safer driving, abiding to all traffic laws and to do what is necessary to protect our pedestrians as they arrive and exit our campus.

Here are some things we are going to emphasize beginning next week:

### **Enforcement of On-Campus Speed Limit:**

The speed limit anywhere on campus is 15 MPH at all times. Our school resource officer is going to dedicate some random times during his shift to monitor and enforce the speed limit as well as other traffic laws. We are also working with Salem PD to have a Radar Reader Board on site for a week that will flash each driver's current speed.

### **Back Gate Protocol and Joseph Street:**

We have increasing concerns of pedestrian safety and traffic issues on Joseph Street. We will be implementing some protocols on campus to ensure our pedestrians are safe. We do not have control over traffic issues on Joseph Street leading to the back gate but have suggestions that we believe will alleviate congestion and more importantly, keep people safer. **Starting Monday, the back gate will be closed in the morning except for buses exiting and Sprague staff arriving.** The gate will be monitored by our security specialists. Students walking onto campus should enter on the south side of Joseph Street. This is critical because the south side of the road leads to a raised sidewalk on campus.

Joseph Street has been a major issue for years. Cars pull over to the right to drop students off and then pull a U-Turn to exit down Joseph Street. There have been

accidents due to these U-Turns that are executed in front of oncoming bus traffic leaving our campus, as well as turning into cars behind that are attempting to pass as they move towards the back gate. We encourage cars that are dropping off students on Joseph Street to do so at the intersection of Croisan Scenic and Joseph with the students walking up the south side of Joseph towards campus. Please see photo below.



**Crosswalks:**

We have crosswalks across several locations on Kuebler Blvd. and Croisan Scenic Way that students travel on each day as they walk to school. Please be extremely cautious when driving by schools especially near crosswalks. In addition, if your child walks to school, please talk to them about being safe when crossing streets. Some students do not look both ways before entering a crosswalk and need to be reminded to do so.

Thanks again for helping us keep our campus as safe as possible.  
Craig Swanson,  
Principal