



BARBARA P. BUSH ELEMENTARY
Houston Independent School District
13800 Westerloch
Houston, Texas 77077
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Theresa Rose
Principal

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Safety Above All Else

Safety Above All Else is the main HISD Core Value. Safety must be a prerequisite for all activities in and around Bush Elementary. Everyone is busy in the morning trying to get to school and work on time. In the rush to do so; however, the safety of our students should never be jeopardized. Many of these unsafe activities can be avoided by leaving five minutes earlier so there is plenty of time to abide by safe arrival procedures.

The following unsafe activities have been observed and must stop during morning arrival.

- Children being dropped off on the center medians on Westerloch or Parkway Plaza cross the middle of the busy street by themselves.
- Children being dropped off in or near the teacher/faculty parking lot walk through the parking lot and cross the bus lane on their own.
- Cars and pedestrians not following the signals/commands of the crossing guards.
- Cars not stopping at stop signs.
- Cars stopping on Westerloch or Parkway Plaza and letting children out onto the sidewalks which abruptly stops the flow of traffic.
- Cars stopping in the carpool lane for parents to sign papers, hand out lunch money, get out and open up doors, or any other activity that causes the carpool lane to come to a complete stop.
- Parents dropping off students in the bus lane.
- Parents talking on cell phones.

Compliance with dismissal procedures is better than with arrival procedures, yet there are still a few issues. The following unsafe activities have been observed and must stop during afternoon dismissal.

- Cars “cutting” in line in the carpool lane.
- Cars “cutting” into the carpool lane entrance to park. These cars nearly hit or sideswipe the cars patiently waiting in the carpool lane.
- Cars stopping and waiting on Westerloch between the carpool lane entrance and exit to wait for a student to arrive or let an adult out to pick up a student.
- Parents on the opposite side of the street from Bush Elementary motioning for their child to cross the street to meet up with them.
- Parents talking on cell phones.

All of these listed activities are extremely dangerous and must be stopped. In a combined effort, some of our concerned parents have requested that the Constable come out and help with this situation. We have also asked for assistance from the HISD Police. For the safety of ALL students, please practice and model safe behaviors for the students of Bush Elementary. Bush Elementary strives for excellence in everything we do - this includes morning arrival and afternoon pick up.

Thank you for taking this notice seriously. Everyone plays a part to ensure “Safety Above All Else” is a core value at Bush Elementary.

Sincerely,

Theresa Rose