

# Traffic Guide

**Cooperation is essential:** Arrival at school in the morning is an opportunity for parents to provide a tangible demonstration of the TCKS character qualities for our children, particularly patience, cooperation, and self control. Over 450 children and 150 or so cars arrive at or leave from TCKS within a fifteen-minute period every morning and afternoon. If we use our character qualities and our common sense, follow the rules of the road, and adhere to the following guidelines, all of our children can get to school on time and, above all, arrive and depart **safely**.

**Arrival and departure times are important:** Children are to be dropped off no earlier than 8:10 AM and picked up no later than 3:20 PM. See the Administrative Matters section in the TCKS Parent Guide for further information.

## There are two possible ways to arrive at Traut:

### 1. The main entrance on Timberwood Drive:

- Approach eastbound or westbound on Timberwood Drive and turn right or left into the school entrance.
- Traffic regulations grant those turning right off Timberwood Drive into the school the right of way over those turning left. Our character qualities of kindness and cooperation encourage us to adopt an alternating arrangement indicated by every other right-turning driver stopping and waving a left-turning driver through. Similarly, if traffic is backed up, we should allow our neighbors in the houses across the street to enter or cross the line of traffic.
- Please use common sense and do not text or use a telephone while driving in the parking lot or drive through lanes.
- Upon entering the school driveway, drivers have a choice of entering the parking lot or using the drop-off lanes. If traffic is backed up to the entrance of the parking lot, it is often faster to enter the parking lot rather than waiting for the line. In addition, many of the people behind you may be waiting to go into the parking lot.
- Please use the curb lane below the parking lot entrance to drop children; do not drop them off along the upper curb, as that obstructs the traffic flow.

#### Drive-Through Lane Procedure:

- If you continue to the drive-through lanes, please note that the drop-off system works most efficiently if each driver pulls forward to the furthest forward available spot before coming to a stop at the curb.
- Prior to your arrival at Traut, your children should be ready to go with backpacks zipped, possessions in hand, and prepared to leave your vehicle efficiently and safely.
- Children are to be dropped off only in the far right lane next to the curb never in the middle or left lane.

- Children must exit the vehicle on the curb side. If this is not possible, the driver must exit the car and walk the child to the curb.
- Pedestrians always have the right of way.
- If there is some last minute problem that will take time to resolve, proceed to the parking lot rather than blocking the drive through lanes.

**Parking Lot Procedure:**

- Park in designated spots only not handicapped spots (unless you are eligible), not on the crosswalks, not in the driving lanes at the ends of the rows, and not where the curb is painted red.
- Pedestrians always have the right of way.
- Children may not be dropped off in the parking lot. You must park and walk them across the drive-through lanes.
- Especially at the end of the day, park in the east lot if you intend to leave eastbound on Timberwood Drive, and park in the west lot if you intend to leave westbound on Timberwood Drive.
- If you arrive early, you may wish to back into a spot or pull through so that you do not have to back out when the parking lot is busy.
- If the school lots are full due to a special event, additional parking is available at Preston Junior High School to the east, along Harvest Lane to the south, and along Timberwood Drive to the west of the school entrance. Parking is prohibited on Timberwood Drive in front of the school.

**2. Harvest Park Lane:**

- Approach eastbound or westbound on Harvest Park Lane south of the school and drop off at the north curb.
- Please either drop off at the north curb or walk your children across the street.
- Traffic regulations provide that vehicles must be facing the proper direction, even when only stopped at the curb.
- Because this area is not school property, TCKS cannot commit to having supervision in this area. Accordingly, children using this location should be mature enough to walk to and from school on their own.
- Use of other neighborhood streets is discouraged.