

We're Talking Safety at Brier Elementary!

Safety is extremely important to all of us at Brier. The beginning and ending of the school day are the busiest times in our parking lot and we want to make sure that our students and families are always safe during this time. We do an incredible job of welcoming and also exiting close to 400 students and 50 staff members safely on and off of our campus each day. Please think through the following safety tips to ensure the maximum safety for all of our students, families, and staff. These are healthy reminders and some tips as we begin a new school year!

- Our student drop-off/pick-up area is located in the front of the school. Please pull your vehicle all the way forward, past the mailbox in this lane, next to the curb. Do not stop midway in the circle, we really need cars to move as far forward as possible. Do not get out of your car during pick up and drop off. We need to have cars moving the whole time in order to get all kids safely home and get all cars safely on their way. Please watch for traffic as you open doors and unload/load your child(ren). Many little ones will be moving throughout this area during this time. This area is for picking up and dropping off students only. If you are going to visit us inside the school, please find a parking spot in one of the parking lots.
- A driving lane is provided through the staff parking lot for our school buses. This lane was designed for the thru traffic of our buses and must remain open for them at all times. Please do not enter this bus lane or the bus zone in the back of the school while school is in session. Also, do not block this lane during pick up and drop off times.
- Please always respect and follow the directions of our safety patrol, staff, and students, as well as, the posted driving signs located throughout the parking lot. Students are not allowed to cross alone into the parking lot. If you are choosing to park, you will need to meet your student(s) at the crosswalk and wait for a safety patrol student or adult to cross you.
- When exiting the circular pick up/drop off area, please pull out and to the left of the parked cars near the curb and safely exit south. Be very cautious during this time and be sure to watch for safety patrol members and students/families being crossed in the crosswalks.

All families will be notified if you have access to a bus for transportation. If you have not been contacted and believe you should have been, or have questions about transportation please contact transportation at 425 431-7230 or visit the Edmonds School District Website at www.edmonds.wednet.edu for more information in regards to transportation to and from school.

We will have four crosswalks to ensure the safety of our students in the Brier service area. These crosswalks are located at the following locations:

1. **Brier Elementary Parking Lot**
2. **Brier Elementary driveway hill**
3. **228th St SW and 32nd Ave W intersection**
4. **5. 232nd St SW and Brier Road intersection**



Our friendly staff along with our very responsible safety patrol students will greet your child(ren) at these stops each morning! For the walk home, we are providing a **"BOBCAT TRACKS"** walking group. Bobcat Tracks is an organized, safe way for walkers to stay together in a group with adult supervision on their way home each and every afternoon! We will have any and all students who are walking home meet in the gym following the school day and at 3:55 each day, this group will walk together along with our staff along two different paths (see attached Brier Bobcat Tracks Walking Routes). We strongly encourage all

students to be a part of our BOBCAT TRACKS group and safely walk together on their way home. We ask that if you would like to take your student out of this group and walk with them alone that you pick him/her up in the gym at the end of the school day. We'd also invite any parents who'd like to join our walking group to come along. Please talk with your children about this opportunity if he/she/they will be walking home from school. If you and your child decide not to walk with this group and choose to walk home alone from school, please make sure that you have reviewed safe walking tips with your child as well as a designated route that he or she can take. Reviewing a safe route to school is also a great step to take knowing that Bobcat Tracks will only be taking place following the end of the school day. If you and your student(s) decide to be a part of the Bobcat Tracks program, please be sure to view the attached Bobcat Tracks Agreement letter all put into place in order to ensure student safety.

At the end of the school day, all students who will be walking home, with the Bobcat Tracks walking groups, will meet in the gym. At approximately 3:55, our staff will lead these students out of the gym to begin their walk home. They will head up the hill (232nd) and cross 35th Ave. W. After crossing, the group will divide into group A and group B. **Group A** will head North on 35th Ave. W. to 34th Ave. W. and proceed on to 228th St. SW. The kids will be crossed at 228th St. SW. and 32nd Ave. W. Then, the group continues on 228th St. SW. to Brier Road where any remaining students will be crossed and will then continue on his/her way home. **Group B** will head East on 232nd St. SW. crossing students along the way to Brier Road. Any remaining students will be crossed at Brier Road and will then proceed home on his/her own. This model ensures that an adult is with our walking students for a majority of his/her walk home. The groups walk on sidewalks and all crosswalks are accompanied by an adult. We ensure the utmost safety of all students by walking in a group.

Are you wondering about morning supervision for our students at Brier Elementary? Student supervision begins at **9:10 each morning**. **We ask that students DO NOT arrive at school prior to this time**. Please do not allow your son/daughter to arrive at school prior to 9:10. Arrival prior to 9:10 compromises the safety of our students. The only exceptions to this is for students who will be eating breakfast here at school (8:45-9:15am) or attending our Beyond the Bells Childcare Program. 9:10am is the earliest time we have staff available to be outside monitoring/supervising the safety of our students. If you are interested in learning more about our on-site Beyond the Bells program please call (425) 431-2094. As a reminder, school starts promptly at 9:20 a.m. each day.

I know this letter is filled with information. I hope that you find it useful as you finish up all of those before school preparations. We are looking forward to a fantastic year and can't wait to see your child(ren) here at school! If you have any questions, you are always welcome to call us here at school at (425) 431-7854.

Thank you for your continued support,

Tori Thomas

Principal