

# John Gomes Elementary School Parking, Pick up and Drop Off Policies

We have around 800 students at Gomes who must arrive at 8:30 am every school day. The best way to avoid a traffic nightmare is to plan ahead. Students can be dropped off between 8:15 and 8:30 am. School traffic flows well at 8:15am and becomes extremely congested at 8:25 - 8:30am. Plan to come earlier so that you are not part of the traffic mess. Better yet, walk to school.

For those who like to brave driving to school, Gomes has drop-off zones on Lemos Lane and Las Palmas Ave. **Parking is not allowed in these zones at any time—Drivers who leave their vehicles within these zones severely mess up the smooth flow of traffic.**

Please drive with consideration in school zones. The speed limit is 15MPH in school zones and 5MPH on the Gomes campus. Effective July 1st, 2003, traffic penalties in Fremont are doubled for speeding and other traffic violations in school zones. Police will be enforcing the new rules vigorously.

Parents who wish to walk their children to their classrooms should park in the lot across from the baseball field. You must enter the Las Palmas Ave entrance to get to this lot. Only park in designated areas for parents as indicated in the map above. Do not park in the staff parking areas also noted in the map. You may park on the area streets, but not at the white curbs that are for unloading and loading only.

**Please obey** the parent and student crossing guards. If you do not follow their directions, your license plate number will be recorded and published in the Parent Bulletin. Repeated offenses will be reported to the Fremont Police Department.

If you are walking to school, cross the street at crosswalks with guards only. Don't teach your child to break laws by crossing in the middle of the street. Please let the guards do their job. Cross only when the guard says to cross.

## If you're driving to school:

- \* Enter the Las Palmas or Lemos loops through the entrances only, as indicated in the map above.
- \* Pull as far forward as possible in the drop-off zones so the maximum number of cars can unload at the same time.
- \* **Drivers, stay in your car!** Safety Patrol will help your child with doors and backpacks.
- \* Drive only in a single-file line. Do not attempt to pass the car in front of you if you are done unloading first.
- \* Let your child out of the car in the drop-off zone on the passenger (school) side only so that they don't have to cross in front of your car or the car behind you.
- \* At pick up time, don't stop and wait for your child in the loading zone. If your child is not there, immediately go around again.
- \* School Buses need to get in and out of the Lemos loop as quickly as possible. Do not block the loading zones.
- \* Don't drop your child off in the middle of the street; this is **illegal and dangerous**.
- \* **Kindergarten Parents: You cannot park** at the unloading curb in front of the kindergarten fence to walk your child to the classroom, nor can you get out of your car to pick them up. You may only stop to let them out of, or into, your car. Otherwise park in the parent parking area and walk with them from, or to, their classroom. Traffic must keep moving in all drop-off areas.

## Driving in School Zones:

- \* Don't talk on your cell phone in the school zone. Cell phones are a distraction.
- \* Don't go through a crosswalk when there are children or guards still in the crosswalk. Wait until all of them are on the sidewalk.
- \* Don't make illegal U-turns. All U-turns are illegal when there is even one car within 200 feet of you.
- \* Don't stop, load or unload, or park at the red curb. This also applies to the blue handicapped curb unless you have a handicapped sticker or placard.



**Please drive with consideration for others. The safety of Gomes students depends on it!**