



## CA Traffic Principles and FAQs

As Bible-believing Christians, we are expected to conduct ourselves in a way that honors our Lord Jesus Christ. We believe these principles help guide the best on-campus experience we can provide with our resources.

### Traffic Principles

- **Safety is the foremost priority when making traffic control and route decisions.**
- We believe safety and efficiency go hand-in-hand. We will compromise speed for safety, but we will never compromise safety for convenience or speed.
- Convenience is essential to us as a part of the servanthood we are called to live. Where possible, we want to make the driving, parking, and pedestrian experience as easy and quick as possible for everyone.
- We pray for your patience and understanding, especially at the beginning of the school year, while we work to make our drop-off and pick-up process as safe and efficient as possible

### Lessons Learned

1. Reducing the number of entrances and exits to/from parking lots improves flow, exit, and fill times. *You will see this principle applied to malls and other large venues.*
  - With multiple outlets to a parking lot, drivers often stop traffic for various reasons, especially to let a vehicle out. Stopping and starting dramatically slows traffic flow compared to a constant travel speed.
  - The time required for driver-to-driver interaction slows traffic.
    - Uncertainty of another driver's actions creates traffic delays.
    - Drivers randomly pulling out (cutting off) other drivers slows traffic in a ripple effect and creates a dangerous situation.
    - Some drivers with the right of way will make a line of traffic wait for a turning or merging driver.
  - Drivers failing to yield will cause others to regulate their speed.
    - Drivers in areas with no entrances or pedestrians can travel at higher speeds - emptying or filling faster.
2. Straight-line drop-off and pickup areas are the safest and fastest for students, especially elementary students.
  - The straight line allows students and drivers to see each other better.
  - The angles created by circles make it hard to see other vehicles and pedestrians.
  - To combat this in the blue area, you will see increased supervision.



3. Controlling when vehicles can move is essential.
  - Preventing drivers from passing an unloading vehicle avoids the situation where a student may open a door or step into the travel lane of an oncoming vehicle.
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  - Preventing drivers from driving while pedestrians are in the travel portion of the roadway prevents dangerous situations.
4. Traffic Circles
  - Roundabouts work great for high-flow intersections.
  - Unloading in a circle should be limited to one lane.
    - Drivers may start moving at inappropriate or dangerous times if the second (unused) lane is not blocked with traffic cones.
    - Use one lane for unloading. Two lanes are dangerous for unloading as pedestrians can be hard to see (poor visibility in a circle).
    - For loading older students, two lanes can be effective for doubling the loading capacity. However, two lanes in a circle are difficult for younger/smaller children. Smaller children cannot see over the first row of vehicles.
5. The number of vehicles that can load or unload at the same time directly equates to an increase or decrease in carpool time.
  - *The rate of loading and unloading is the greatest factor in carpool time.*
6. More extended periods of stopped traffic for loading and unloading are safer than constant stop-and-start traffic.
  - Drivers are more likely to focus their attention when moving long distances.
  - Drivers in stop-and-go traffic tend to be distracted and use devices while operating at slow speeds.
  - When the drive line moves, a lag or no response from a vehicle signals to others that a driver is not paying attention or may have another issue.
7. A percentage of drivers on campus will not demonstrate Christian values, and the need for circumstantially appropriate repercussions exist.
8. Police officers with citable/arrest powers are necessary during carpool.
  - Most people drive better with LE present out of fear of citation.
  - Officers and drivers need to know the school administration encourages officers to cite for reckless and dangerous driving behavior.

## **Elements of Traffic Decision Making**

- Campus travel time can be reduced by limiting the number of conflict points. Conflict points are locations where drivers must make decisions and focus on potential hazards. For example, reducing conflict points allows the interstate to be faster and safer.
  - Examples of conflict points:
    - Intersections
    - Turning Options
    - Lane Choices
    - Crosswalks
- Controlling loading and unloading zones increases safety and decreases campus travel time. School employees must be empowered by the school to control when cars move.



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**Employees working in carpool can often see what drivers cannot.** They are uniquely positioned to prevent tragedies.

- Drivers who do not follow instructions or are disrespectful to employees should be addressed by a principal or school representative with the ability to enforce repercussions. Repeated uncooperative or disrespectful actions cannot be tolerated.