

A MESSAGE FROM THE KEY BISCAIYNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Welcome back to another school year! We want to help make sure each student gets to and from school safely; therefore, we will be vigorously enforcing the traffic laws in the areas immediately surrounding the school. Some of the areas of concern in the past year have been:

1. **Excessive speed** on the streets leading up to and surrounding the school. Remember, the speed limit during the posted times immediately before and after school is lowered to 15 mph. All other times the speed limit for the interior streets of the Village is 20 mph.
2. **Seat Belt / Child Restraint use.** The laws regarding seatbelt/child restraint use are very clear. Children up to age 3 **MUST** be in a child restraint device (car seat). Children ages 4 & 5 are **required** to be in either a car seat or a booster seat. From 6-17 they **MUST** be in a booster seat or wearing a seatbelt, no matter where they are sitting in the vehicle. Everyone, adults included, must wear a seatbelt if they are sitting in the front seat.
3. **Parking Violations.** There are some violations that **will not** be tolerated. These include: blocking the driveways that lead to the school field. These driveways must always remain clear in the event of an emergency that necessitates getting a fire/rescue truck or other emergency vehicles onto the field and blocking a crosswalk or sidewalk. All of these are safety violations. Additionally, parking in the drop-off/pick-up lanes during the posted 'No Parking' times. These lanes must remain clear so that traffic can flow freely. Please use the designated drop-off/pick-up lanes. Dropping off or picking up your child on roadways adjacent to the school not only holds up traffic but may cause them to have to cross the roadway without benefit of a crossing guard in a dangerous place. There is **no double parking** while waiting to pick up children.
4. **Helmet use** for those students who ride a bicycle to school. The law states that anyone under the age of 16 operating a bicycle **must** wear a helmet that is properly fastened below the chin.
5. **Distracted Driving.** Please remember that **texting and driving is against the law**. If possible, please refrain from using your cellular phone at all while driving in and around the school during arrival and dismissal times so that you may keep your full attention on the road. Anywhere around the school is a **"Hands Free Zone"**. You are not allowed to hold a phone while operating a vehicle near the school.

If your child walks or bikes to school, please instruct them to use the new **"Safe Route to School"** plan (see attached map). We appreciate all your help in making this a safe, accident-free school year!

Frank Sousa
Chief of Police

