

Walker Safety Program VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



The Walker Safety drop-off lane operating on Wednesday and Friday mornings needs more volunteers. The program, staffed by a few volunteers from 7:50-8:20 in the morning, aims to keep our children safer by helping them out of the car so you don't have to park and get out. You pull up to the curb next to the school, we help them out of the car at the curb, and monitor them as they walk into the school.

We want to continue the program next year, but several of our current volunteers are graduating out of the school. This is a great opportunity for you to really make a difference. If enough people volunteer, the program could be expanded to operate every morning. Moms and dads, grandparents and baby-sitters are welcome!

Call or email for more information: Beth Chiariello cell # 917-683-4247
beth.chiariello@gmail.com

Tear off below if you would like me to contact you



Name: _____

Cell # _____ email address: _____

Mornings available: _____

Child's name(s) and class: _____

Walker Safety Drop Off Lane

Wednesday and Friday mornings only

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - FAQ's

1. **Why should I go out of my way to drop off my child in this lane?** PS 221 PTA and Administration are collaborating to provide a safe way for you to drop off your child. If you participate, you show your support. You also reduce the backlog and double-parking that occurs in the surrounding areas, which is unsafe for all of our children. By participating, we show the community and the NYPD that we take child safety seriously.
2. **How is this safe for my child?** Parent volunteers are wearing reflective vests to distinguish themselves from other people. They will meet your car and assist your children out of the car. If your child is in the higher grades, he or she can get out of the car and walk up the sidewalk independently. Parent volunteers can help with back-packs and lunch bags, managing seat belts, and even go around to the drivers' side of the car if there is an infant seat on the passenger side. We are here to help. You should not have to get out of the car.
3. **Ok, so I will drive around the block to try the new system, where should I go?** Take Marathon Parkway southbound from the LIE service road up the hill. You will be on the same side as PS 221, where you will see cones and a volunteer parent with a flag directing cars into the drop-off lane. At approximately 8:05 am, when the buses stop coming to the 60th Avenue side of the school, we will open 60th Ave for a drop off lane as well.
4. **I'm in a hurry, why won't the parent volunteers get to my car fast enough?** If you watch the directions from the parent volunteers, they will let you know when to unlock your doors and let your children out. We are trying to synchronize dropping off children with the light at the top of the hill. If you wait, you will drop off your child closer to the door of the school. If you wait, we can also keep eye on your child. PS221 staff are at the top of the hill to watch children as they walk up to the school. If you let your children out of your car before the cones and drop-off lane start, we cannot be responsible for your child.
5. **My child won't get out of the car. What should I do?** You need to pull through the intersection, park your car, and walk your child to the school if your child is not ready. If you try to talk your child into using this system before she or he is ready, you will delay everyone else. The system will work if every car stops briefly and then moves on.
6. **After I drop off my child, what happens next?** You need to drive up to the top of the hill and merge safely into the travel lane southbound on Marathon Parkway. Please do not attempt to make a left turn at 60th Street. This creates congestion and delays the cars behind you that are trying to get through the intersection. It also creates delays in the drop-off lane. Go straight and then go around the block to your destination.
7. **Where do you get your parent volunteers from?** All volunteers feel strongly about child safety and are giving their own time toward this program. We need more volunteers!! If you come early to help, your child can sit inside and wait for the school to open. Please consider giving your time so we can expand the program. Please invite other parents, grandparents and baby-sitters to help us.

If you have questions, please contact Beth Chiariello at 917-683-4247 or beth.chiariello@gmail.com
Or show up at 7:45 am on a Wednesday or a Friday. Thank you.