



Walk Your Child to School Week

October 5 – 9, 2009

Join children and parents across Kirkland – and America – by walking your child to school and discussing the enclosed pedestrian safety information October 5-9. On different days during the week, your child may meet a police officer, firefighter, city council member or PedBee.

Each day your child walks, they can enter a drawing for fun prizes using the enclosed “I’m a Safe Walker” tickets. Tickets will be collected throughout the week at the volunteer table located near the main entrance of the school building. The drawing will be held on Friday morning, October 9. Winners will hear their names called out during morning announcements and will be able to collect their prize that same day.

For those children who take the bus, or must be driven to school, fill out the enclosed “Student Walk Skills Quiz” and turn it into the volunteer table, along with your walking ticket. Additional “Student Walk Skills Quiz” forms will be available at the volunteer table.

Every child wins when you take the time to teach them Basic Safe Walking Skills:

- On your walk you can talk to your child about the best walking route to and from school. See our school’s Walk Route map (enclosed) for suggested walk routes.
- It is always best to walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you have to walk in the road, always walk facing the traffic.
- Always cross at corners and at marked crosswalks.
- Before you step onto the street LOOK LEFT, RIGHT AND THEN LEFT AGAIN and MAKE EYE CONTACT with the driver to make sure he/she sees you.



"i'm a safe walker"

_____ (child's name)

My teacher is _____

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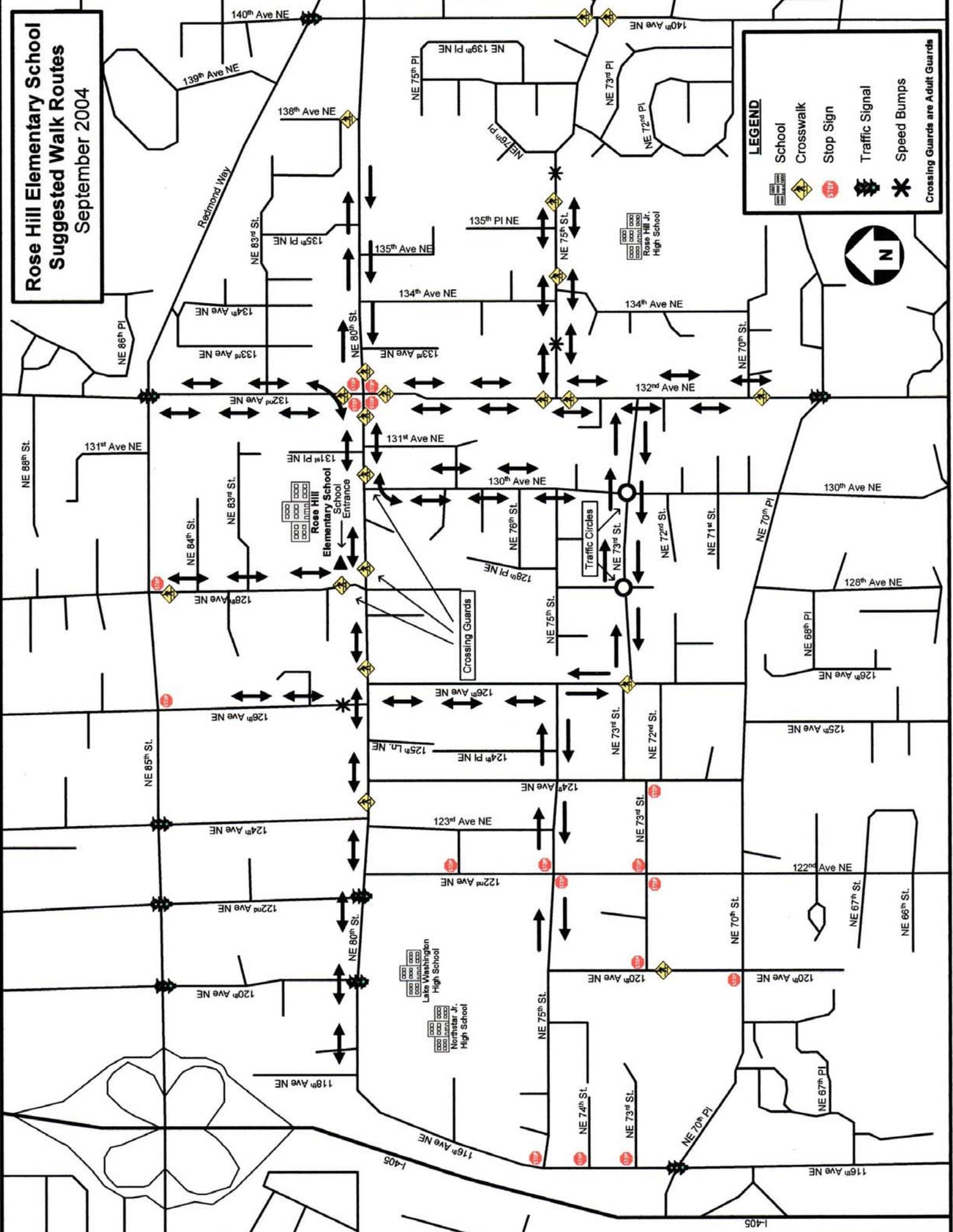
My teacher is _____

Rose Hill Elementary School Suggested Walk Routes September 2004

LEGEND

- School
- Crosswalk
- Stop Sign
- Traffic Signal
- Speed Bumps

Crossing Guards are Adult Guards



Why Safe Routes to School?

A generation ago, a majority of US children walked or biked to school.

Today, most children take the bus or are driven. Only 1 out of every 8 children gets to school on their own two feet. This quiet shift of norms is taking a tremendous toll on our communities.

- Childhood obesity has reached epidemic proportions due in part to increasingly inactive lifestyles.
- An estimated 25% of morning traffic is parents driving their children to school.
- More cars on the street make neighborhoods seem less safe, discouraging walking and biking.
- Overcrowded school drop-off and pick-up areas bring pollution and traffic danger to the doorsteps of our schools.

Safe Routes to School programs can combat these trends by:

- bringing people together in a joyful activity.
- supporting the habit of moderate daily exercise.
- addressing safety concerns with structural improvements and community building.
- providing an open invitation for people to be deliberate about their transportation choices.
- organizing diverse community members around a unifying issue: neighborhood safety.

Safety Tips

Parents

When driving in the school zone, parking lot or drop off area please refrain from using cell phones, eating breakfast, combing your child's hair or doing any other activity that would distract your attention.

Please do:

- ✓ slow down
- ✓ watch for children darting between parked cars
- ✓ pull up to the curb where your child can safely exit
- ✓ have your child ready to exit quickly to avoid delays which can frustrate drivers behind you
- ✓ if you park your car please walk with your child to the school entrance

Kids

While in the car on your way to school you can help the driver by:
(Only one answer is correct)

- a) Eating your breakfast and doing your homework to save time
- b) Arguing with your siblings over who sits in the front
- c) Being ready to exit the car when you arrive at school

Parents and Kids

Please discuss the following pedestrian safety information.

When crossing the street remember to:

- ✓ Cross at an intersection or marked crosswalk
- ✓ Stop at the edge of the curb or roadway
- ✓ Look left, right and left again
- ✓ Listen for cars
- ✓ Make eye contact with drivers who stop for you

When crossing at an intersection with a traffic signal push the pedestrian button and wait for the Walk signal. When you see the Walk signal and before you cross the street remember to:

- ✓ Look both ways
- ✓ Look over your shoulder for cars turning right
- ✓ Look ahead for cars turning left
- ✓ If it's clear start crossing

Consejos de Seguridad Peatonal

Padres

Cuando maneje en una zona escolar, área de parqueo o zona de descargue, por favor evite el uso de teléfono celular, actividad de desayunar, peinar a su niño(a) o hacer alguna otra actividad que distraiga su atención.

Por favor:

- ✓ Conduzca a baja velocidad
- ✓ Fíjese en niños que salen súbitamente de entre vehículos parqueados
- ✓ Acérquese a la cuneta para que su niño(a) salga del vehículo sin peligro
- ✓ Haga que su niño(a) salga rápido para evitar demoras que puedan causar frustración a los conductores que están esperando detrás de usted
- ✓ Si parquea su vehículo por favor lleve a su niño hasta la puerta de entrada

Niños

Mientras estás dentro del vehículo y en ruta hacia la escuela, tu puedes ayudar con lo siguiente:

(Solo una respuesta es correcta)

- a) Desayunando y haciendo la tarea para ahorrar tiempo
- b) Discutiendo con tus hermanos para ver quien se sienta al frente
- c) Conversando en voz baja y estando listo para salir del vehículo cuando llegas a la escuela

Padres y Niños

Por favor discutan la siguiente información de seguridad peatonal.

Cuando crucen la calle recuerden:

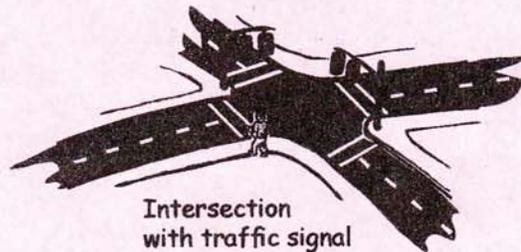
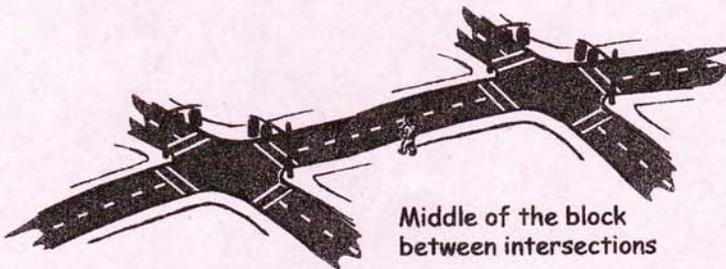
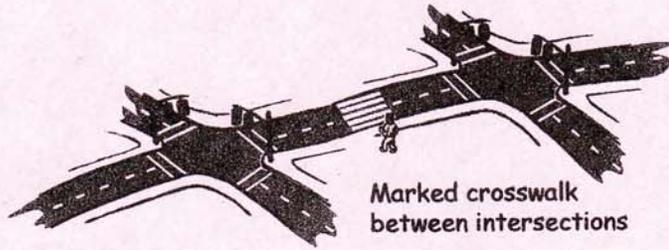
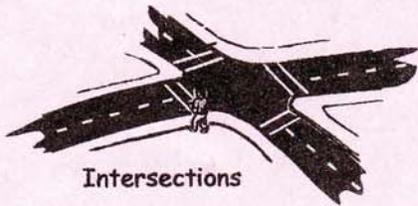
- ✓ Cruzar en intersecciones o en sitios específicamente marcados y designados para cruce peatonal
- ✓ Pararse al borde de la cuneta o calle
- ✓ Mirar a la izquierda, derecha e izquierda otra vez
- ✓ Estar atento al sonido de los vehículos
- ✓ Establecer contacto visual (ojo a ojo) con los conductores que se paran para dejarlos pasar

Cuando crucen en una intersección controlada por un semáforo, empuje el boton peatonal y espere la señal de caminar. Cuando vea la señal de caminar y antes de cruzar la calle recuerde:

- ✓ Mirar a ambos lados
- ✓ Mirar sobre su hombro por vehículos que podrían estar a su derecha
- ✓ Mira hacia adelante por vehículos a su izquierda
- ✓ Si nadie viene. comience a cruzar la calle

Student Walk Skills Quiz

1 Circle the 3 safest locations to cross the street and put an X through the one you should avoid.

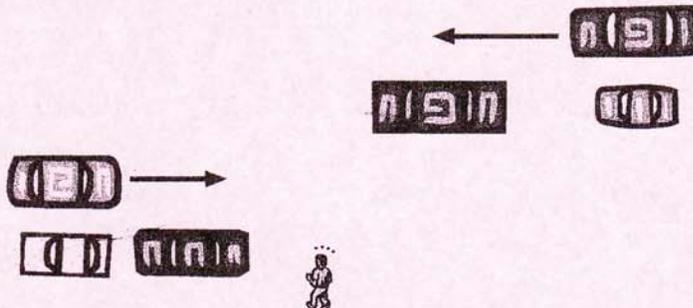


2 While waiting to cross between parked cars in a parking lot which of the following should you not do?

- a) Look both ways and listen for cars.
- b) Look both ways and if it is clear start crossing.
- c) Dart out from between parked cars.

3 When crossing a street that has more than two lanes of traffic you should

- a) cross only at a marked crosswalk
- b) make sure drivers in every lane see you and that they come to a complete stop
- c) both a and b



Tip:

In this situation approaching drivers may not be able to see you behind the cars that are already stopped. Make eye contact with the drivers before crossing.

**Answer this Quiz and
You could win a prize!**

Fill out the answers to the quiz above and then turn in the raffle ticket for a chance to win a great prize!

"I'm a safe walker"

_____ (child's name)