



# BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

## Parents:

- Talk to your children about strangers and the importance of knowing who will be picking them up after school.
- If your children are walking, try to have them walk with a friend and pick a safe route with high visibility.
- When picking your children up from school, stop and park in designated areas. Please respect neighbors who live near the campus.
- Make sure your child's school has the most updated emergency contact information for you.
- If your child is walking or biking to and from school, please talk to them about the importance of being aware of what is going on around them.
- Write down the make, model, and serial numbers to valued property your child takes with them to school (ie. iPod, cell phone, or bicycle). Store this information in a safe place in your home. This information will be useful in recovering your child's property if stolen or lost.

## Bicycle Laws:

- Explain bicycle laws to your children
- Anyone under the age of 18 must wear a helmet when riding a bicycle.
- If your children do not have access to a bicycle lane or you have a safety concern about them riding in the bike lane, it is legal for bicyclists to ride on the sidewalk in the City of Dana Point. Keep in mind that bicyclists must still ride in the same direction with traffic and pedestrians walking on the sidewalk have the right of way.

## Kids:

- Try to avoid walking or biking anywhere alone.
- Remember, **everyone** under the age of 18 must wear a helmet if you are riding a bicycle, skateboarding, skating, or riding a scooter.
- When riding a bicycle, ride in the same direction as traffic in the bicycle lane.
- Do not talk to strangers.
- Never take a short cut through an area or neighborhood you are unfamiliar with.
- Never take a short cut through an area or neighborhood your parents have not told you to take.
- Don't ever listen to your iPod too loud-you need to hear what is going on around you.
- Try not to text and walk and the same time. Texting while walking is dangerous and keeps you from paying attention to your surroundings.