



School Liaison Office

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It is that time of year again, school will be starting! The following are frequently asked questions about base safety and transportation guidelines. Please note the information below is subject to change.

1. What is the drop off and pick-up plan for the school zone?

The curb in front of the school is considered a drop-off /pick-up zone during the posted times. Parents can stop in the drop-off/pick-up area and help their kids get out of the car. The cars, however, cannot be left unattended. Parents who wish to walk their child to the school doors will need to utilize the new parking lot or use Sycamore Dr. Head Start parents will be allowed to park curbside North of the main cross walk. They will be given a pass to put in the front window of their car. See attached map.

2. Do the in-town schools experience similar parking conditions as Twining?

Yes, each school has their own "unique" circumstances and review safety precautions regularly. In town, parents park on side streets by their respective schools and walk their children to school.

3. What parking is permitted on Sycamore Street?

Parking along Sycamore will only be allowed along the north side of this east and west running street. Security Forces has sent out a map depicting traffic safety guidelines. If you would like a map, please call the School Liaison Office.

4. How was the location of the new parking lot chosen?

For your consideration and use "Balfour Beatty (BBC) manages the Housing Community at Grand Forks AFB, and since the United States Air Force funded the new parking lot an empty parcel of land that is controlled by the Air Force had to be selected to build the new lot. Therefore, its current location is the nearest spot to school property."

5. What is the role of Security Forces Squadron personnel in the school zone?

The Security Forces Squadron is part of a base-level agreement with Balfour Beatty Communities to provide law enforcement services in base housing. Part of this responsibility is to enforce traffic rules along Louisiana Street in front of Twining School, which is a Grand Forks Public School. Their role is not to direct traffic in the school zone. This keeps the enforcement of traffic consistent with off base schools, in which police also enforce traffic rules in school zones but do not direct traffic.

6. Are U-turns permitted in the school zone on Louisiana Street?

No. This can cause unsafe conditions for students and other drivers. Drivers will be ticketed.

7. How far away from a cross-walk must cars park?

According to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), cars should park 20ft. from a crosswalk. Orange cones will be placed on the roads as visual reminders for vehicles.

8. Do all in-town schools receive bussing services?

No. There is limited bussing for the in-town schools. If children are bussed to school, parents pay a fee for that service. Exceptions: GFAFB students attending Grand Forks Central High School and children that attend the pre-school special needs class at Twining are provided bussing services through the Grand Forks Public School system at no cost.

9. Is there any bussing available on base?

At this time, the base Youth Center provides transportation using their vans to and from school for families who are patrons of the Before and After School Program (5-12 year olds) for a fee. Parents of youth 9-15 years old also have the option to pay a monthly fee for transportation to the Youth Center after school only. For more questions, please call the Youth Center at 701-747-3151.

10. Where are kids permitted to ride bicycles, skateboards, in-line skates, and scooters?

Youth should ride wheeled sports equipment only on the sidewalks when out of the school zone. Riding in the streets can cause unsafe conditions for them and drivers. Wheeled sports equipment while on school grounds need to be carried or walked. Youth should also be wearing appropriate safety gear.

11. Should cars stop for children who are waiting in the cross-walks?

Yes. Cars should give the right of way to students who are waiting to safely cross the street.

12. Who do I call if I have questions about street conditions, pets, traffic, and snow removal?

Housing residents should call the customer service line with Balfour-Beatty Communities at 701-594-8000.

13. What program(s) are in place for families to help with drop-offs and pick-ups?

Parent options are: School breakfast program (ask Twining for details), carpooling, drop off children at 8:20 am, or utilize the Before and After School Program at the Youth Center.

14. Will parents be able to park in front of the school for family events and conferences?

Yes. Parents are allowed to park along the curb in front of the school. Also, parents are encouraged to use the new parking lot across the street from the school.

15. What are the Twining school winter weather clothing requirements for my child?

Twining Elementary/Middle School does require that all students in 6-8th grade come to school with cold weather gear (warm coat, hat, and gloves). Regardless if a child is dropped off at the school doors or riding the youth center bus, all K-5 students need a warm coat, snow pants, boots, a hat, and warm gloves. Classes go out for recess every day when the 'feels like' temperature is 0 degrees or above, however, students must have winter gear every day when there is snow on the ground.

16. At what age can my child walk to school unsupervised?

Grand Forks Public Schools and the GFAFB do not have a written policy specifying an age limit. Parents are encouraged to consider distance, the path traveled, the number of streets to be crossed, as well as the maturity of the child to handle the responsibility when deciding if to allow the child to walk unsupervised to/from school. Parents with other supervision related questions can refer to the GFAFB Oct 2015-2017 Supervision Guidelines located on the School Liaison webpage under parent resources.

For more information about school safety, parents/youth resources, School MFLC, current events, and educational links please visit the School Liaison webpage at:

<http://www.grandforks.af.mil/About-Us/School-Liaison>