

Principal Lynn Main  
September 25, 2012

There are over 80 adults who call Lafayette their weekday home. From teachers to office staff to the nurse and custodians, these are the folks who meet and greet our students as they enter the school doors each morning. But there is someone else who also greets your children every morning as they come to school. Who watches out for their safety as they leave each afternoon. Who manages the mass crowd heading for Broad Branch Market. And that is our crossing guard Eddie Lee.

Mr. Lee started at Lafayette a year ago and has made himself a wonderful part of our school community. No matter what the weather, he is at the corner of Northampton Street and Broad Branch Road bright and early every morning. Always cheerful, he greets our children as he directs them across the street, many of them by name. In the afternoons he manages to control the rush to Broad Branch Market with humor. And on some days after he takes off his neon green vest or raincoat you will find him behind the counter at the market helping customers.

The following is a letter that Mr. Lee gave to me to share with all of you. In it he makes a few simple requests that will make his life a whole lot easier. His original is on the board near the front office.

TO: ALL PARENTS, CARE GIVERS AND CHILDREN  
FROM: EDDIE LEE, THE CROSSING GUARD

I want everyone to have a safe school year.  
Please follow the safety precautions below.

**Drivers, always use blinkers when making a turn.**

I have seen a number of drivers who fail to do this when coming or leaving the school vicinity.

**Drivers, please stop behind the solid white line before the actual cross walk.** This is an added layer of protection for pedestrians. I see too many of you drive right up to the pedestrian walk line. This is very dangerous, especially with toddlers and strollers.

**Pedestrians, please wait for me to give you the go ahead to cross.** This is an important example for your children. If they see you following my lead, they will too. There are too many adults walking right into traffic after I have given the go ahead to a turning truck or car. I cannot see in back of me. So please do not cross until I have seen you and given you the okay.

I know there are important phone calls to make, but **please stay off cell phones while crossing** to drop off, after drop off, at pick-up and after pick-up.

My job is to cross children to and from school. But I stay and cross adults after drop off, too. I worry about everybody.

I am on duty between 7-9 am and 2-4 pm.

If everyone can make a committed effort to follow these simple rules during that time, everyone will stay safe and I will have a very happy year!

Thank you!

Eddie Lee