

Mariners Christian School – Carpool Corner!
Afternoon Pickup – can we improve?

Our afternoon carpool team has organized this daily routine into a very efficient process. Evidence of this efficiency is that over 700 students and 425 cars are released from our campus in just 30 minutes with first carpool exiting at 2:45 and the last carpool on or before 3:15. This is quite an accomplishment and we applaud and thank our staff for this.

While we continue to look for ways to improve the on-campus experience, we also want to make some changes to improve the off-campus experience for our families and for the businesses around us.

Important Reminders:

K-3 students are dismissed at 2:35
4-8 Students are dismissed at 2:55

We currently run 4 groups through afternoon carpool as follows:

- 1st carpool – around the field for K-3 students
- 2nd carpool – around the field for K-8 students
- 3rd carpool – in the front parking lot for K-8 students
- 4th carpool – around the field a second time for K-8 students

Gates open for 1st carpool at 2:20. There is no need to arrive prior to 2:20 as we ask parents to arrive between 2:20 and 2:30. This will allow cars to wait in designated carpool parking area to be ready for the dismissal of K-3 students. It also ensures cars are not double parked on the streets blocking the flow of traffic or neighboring businesses. First carpool is released around 2:45 with all cars clearing the area around 2:50.

Second carpool begins at 2:45. There is no need to arrive prior to 2:45. Second carpool is released around 3:00 with the last car in this group exiting around 3:08.

Third carpool begins when second carpool is full, usually around 2:55. Third carpool is released around as soon as the last car in second carpool exits, approximately 3:10.

Fourth carpool begins when third carpool is full and second carpool is being released, usually around 3:05. Fourth carpool is released around 3:10 with last car exiting by 3:15.

To help afternoon carpool, we ask the following:

1. Do not arrive prior to your carpool time.
2. Do not turn left from Fischer Ave into the MCS campus. This blocks traffic both entering and exiting the campus.
3. Do not block the driveways of our neighboring businesses! Please allow traffic to flow in and out of these businesses as you move slowly past these driveways. Some of the businesses at the intersection of Airway and Fischer leave work between 2:30 and 3:00. Please notice and be courteous to them.
4. We recommend entering Airway from Baker or Paularino as it allows a right turn onto Fischer and a right turn into the MCS campus.

5. Do not “park” in the middle of Airway coming from Kalmus. The left turn lane is designed for active traffic. We have parents arriving on time for 1st carpool that cannot turn left easily because we have cars “parked” in the middle of Airway. This is not a safe situation for traffic turning left from Airway to Fischer or for traffic on Airway driving through the Fischer intersection.
6. Be aware of the carpool times described above. We realize some may have specific appointments, but others may find significant time savings by arriving at MCS later and then getting home only a few minutes later than usual.
7. Do try arriving at different times just to see if the experience might be different for you. While everyone cannot do this at the same time, some of you might try arriving at 3:00 or later just to see what it is like.

We thank you for your current and continued love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control as we work to refine our processes. Final thought for this message – there are times when being first in line is a good thing, there are times when it does not matter where you are in line, and there are times it may be beneficial to be toward the end of the line.

Stay tuned for our next Carpool Corner!