

Dear EISD Parents,

As you know, here in EISD safety is our number one priority. Administrators follow all protocols to keep teachers and students safe. Our society is changing and it is imperative that everyone is always cognizant of their surroundings.

Often our EISD students stay late for after school activities. Please ensure that you have provided your child with safety tips for staying safe when walking home and always expect the unexpected, meaning look for suspicious activities and do not be trusting of strangers.

**Here are a few safety tips:**

Always use traffic signals and crosswalks if available — but do not treat them like force fields. Remember drivers are humans, too, which means they will not always see crosswalks or people walking in them.

**Eyes up, phones down**

Be attentive when walking to avoid tripping, or worse, walking into traffic. Teach kids to put phones, headphones and devices down when crossing the street. It's particularly important to reinforce this message with teenagers. Being distracted by technology while walking is becoming one of the major causes of pedestrian accidents.

**Walk in a group**

This provides safety in two ways: a group of students may be more visible to a driver than a single student and it provides personal safety from someone who may wish to do harm to a student.

**Walk on sidewalks or paths**

It is always best to walk on sidewalks or paths and cross at street corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.

**Be a good role model**

Set a good example by putting your phone, headphones and devices down when walking around cars.

**Be visible**

Students should have some form of clothing, backpack or other item that is reflective, or some form of light to shine as they walk. Dark clothing is a major factor when it comes to pedestrian versus vehicle accidents.

Sincerely,

Dr. Curtis Amos