



Hello Dragon Families,

You know that safety is my number one priority. Next week, I will be at the Colorado School Safety Resource Center annual School Safety Summit. I am always looking at how we can do better. A major component of the safety around our school is our driveline. Speaking of driveline...

I'd like to have a conversation about the humble traffic cone. It's job is thankless. It sits in our parking lot, beaming fluorescent orange, providing warning and direction. It helps safely guide our parents through morning and afternoon driveline. Yet our cones are being run over, dragged, and missed on too frequent of a basis. I need your help to save our cones.



How is it, you ask, that our traffic cones are being missed and subjected to this pain and suffering? It doesn't move. It's in the same exact location every day. This is exactly what I would like to talk about.

As you probably suspect, the issue is simple: **distraction**. I'm outside for morning driveline every morning and these are just a few of the unsafe behaviors I have personally observed:

- Texting or looking at cell phones
- Pets in a driver's lap
- Texting or looking at cell phones
- Looking back and reaching to unbuckle kids while still moving forward
- Texting or looking at cell phones
- Looking backward to make sure their child made it in the door while still driving forward and not watching in front of them
- Texting or looking at cell phones
- "Racing" their child who is on the sidewalk as they pull forward in line, looking out their side windows instead of watching in front of them
- Cell phones...again...
- Getting out of their vehicle to hug their child goodbye and leaving the car in gear

I know that it might sound like I'm making light of a very serious situation. On the contrary, I'm trying to get the attention of more parents to help us keep everyone's children safe. Whether it is morning, or afternoon driveline, we need our parents' full attention on our campus. We dedicate considerable staff resources to our driveline teams because the safety of every child is our priority. Our parents and guardians are also part of that team. We need your undivided attention. If our predictable, humble, stationary, fluorescent traffic cones are being subjected to damage and injury, I beg for your attention when we have unpredictable, moving children involved.



### A few friendly reminders:

- No cell phones while you are in a moving vehicle
- Pull all the way forward and do not pass in driveline
- Stay in your vehicle. Our staff can help students out of the car. If you want another goodbye hug, please park and walk your child to the front door.
- Please be courteous. If approaching from Left Hand Circle, ALWAYS approach from the north leg of Left Hand Circle and Sunset St. This means you will turn right onto Miller Dr. from Left Hand Circle. Left turns from Left Hand Circle to Miller Dr. are not permitted during driveline as you are essentially cutting in line.

This is a brand new traffic cone. Please help me keep it shiny and bright by giving our children your full attention. Every one of our Dragons deserves it.



Thank you.

**Wayne Granger**

Executive Director

[wgranger@flagstaffacademy.org](mailto:wgranger@flagstaffacademy.org)

