



**SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL
BOWDITCH MIDDLE SCHOOL*

1450 Tarpon Street
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Heather M Gomez
Principal
Caleb Bowers
Assistant Principal

March 1, 2017

Dear Parents,

This morning you may have seen emergency response personnel on our campus as we had three students involved in three separate accidents where they were hit by cars biking to school. All students were evaluated by paramedics and sent home with parents, they are all okay.

Earlier this year we provided bicycle safety training to students. We are working with the Foster City Police Department to provide another safety assembly for our students in the near future.

As a reminder for parents:

- When driving near schools and areas with a high degree of pedestrian traffic please obey all speed limits, especially parking lot speed limits of 15 mph.
- Stop at all stop signs and crosswalks, and brake for pedestrians.
- Be vigilant, alert and aware of the children around you.
- It's extra important for parents to model proper behavior. Wear a helmet when riding a bicycle, even if you didn't when you were a kid.

As a reminder for students:

- Make sure you have a properly-fitted helmet and wear it every when time riding, skating or scooting. It is the best way to prevent head injuries.
- Always ride on the sidewalk when you can. If not, ride in the same direction as traffic as far on the right-hand side as possible.
- Use hand signals and follow the rules of the road. Be predictable by making sure you ride in a straight line and don't swerve between cars.
- Wear bright colors and use lights, especially when riding at night and in the morning. Reflectors on your clothes and bike will help you be seen.
- Always stop at every driveway where a car is nearby.
- Make eye contact with drivers. You should make sure drivers are paying attention and are going to stop before you cross the street.

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If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (650) 312-7316.

Thank you,

Ms. Heather Gomez
Bowditch Principal