

Central Safety Committee

Proposal and observation of Barnes Butte Elementary student flow in relation to traffic patterns.
Based on observation on March 15, 2016

Observations of Committee:

There are not enough crosswalks at the four-way intersection at Barnes Butte Elementary. There is only a marked crosswalk on the north side heading east and west, but no marked crosswalks going north and south. With the intersections not being marked north and south as crosswalks, the committee observed drivers doing "California stops" across those paths.

The committee members observed blocked signs, in addition to the lack of crosswalks. There were students and parents crossing at the intersection with no crosswalks.

When students walked up, they were hesitant, and there was confusion whether students were crossing or not. There was a lot of confusion on traffic flow and hesitation, because motorists didn't know what kids would do. Committee members also observed that it isn't clear on how traffic flows when you first enter the area.

Traffic cannot see the stop sign on the north side of the intersection because it is hidden behind the "Do Not Enter" signs.

In winter conditions, to keep traffic flowing up the hill, they should not stop at the intersection. If they stop for students, you may have traffic that cannot resume moving under icy conditions. The school district is already providing crossing guards at the middle school and high school where the students are older and more mature, yet we are not providing crossing guards for elementary students at Barnes Butte Elementary, who are not at the above maturity level.

The committee felt that with all other measures, there will still be confusion and uncertainty as to what kids are going to do unless there are crossing guards directing students.

Recommendation #1

Crosswalks at the intersection North and South at the four-way intersection at BBE. (Marked crosswalks installed by City Road Crew in early April)

Recommendation #2

Traffic cannot see the stop sign on the north side of the intersection because it is hidden behind the "Do Not Enter" signs. Ensure that all signs, especially stop signs, are not blocked. (Current Stop Sign is already the largest size)

Recommendation #3

Implement crossing guards to hold the students back at intersection to allow traffic to flow up the hill to ensure student safety, and to have an adult to control their passage across the intersection.

Recommendation #4

The City of Prineville and Crook County have provided training programs for some of the crossing guards, although not all have had formal training. It is recommended that all crossing guards have formal training.