



## JAMESTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

*From the Desk of:*

**Andrew Staska, School Resource Officer**

205 6<sup>th</sup> St SE Suite 101, Jamestown, North Dakota 58401

(701) 252-2414 Fax (701) 251-6297

*astaska@nd.gov*



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Over the course of last school year, the Jamestown Police Department fielded many parking complaints around the Jamestown Public Schools. Though I made an effort to be present around the schools while students were being dropped off in the mornings and picked up after school, I could not be at every school and it was too much area for one person to cover.

As you may or may not have noticed after the first couple of days of school, the Police Department has increased its presence around the schools during these times. This action was done not only to enforce parking violations, but also to hopefully prevent anyone from getting hurt, especially our students.

After the first day of school, there were several observations made by our Officers. One observation made was double-parking. According to the Jamestown Municipal Code (21-16-03)(l), Double Parking is when a vehicle stops "on the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of the street." 21-16-04(a) states "A vehicle may be allowed to double park for the purpose of loading or discharging passengers...but only for such length of time as is absolutely necessary for such loading and unloading." Essentially, a vehicle may stop next to a parked vehicle to allow passengers in or out of a vehicle, but it cannot stop for any time longer than to allow people in or out and it cannot park and wait for people.

Another observation was violations to street signs and curb markings. For example; on the east side of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE in front of the middle school, the curb is painted yellow and signs designate it as a Loading Zone. According to Jamestown Municipal Code 21-16-09, "No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle for any purpose or period of time other than for the **expeditious** loading or unloading of passengers in any place marked as a passenger curb loading zone and then only for a period long enough to complete such loading and unloading." As it is currently marked, vehicles are not allowed to park on the east side of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SE in front of the middle school. If a vehicle is dropping a person off at the middle school, it is allowed to pull up to the curb and let that person out **expeditiously**, then drive away. If a vehicle is picking a person up in front of the middle school, it is also allowed to pull up to the curb and let that person in **expeditiously**, then drive away. Vehicles however cannot stop and park in this location.

If a curb is painted yellow, a vehicle is not allowed to park there unless it is marked by a street sign that says otherwise. An example of this would be in front of Roosevelt elementary, where the curb is painted yellow, but the signs allow for 15 minute parking between the hours of 8am and 5pm. If it is painted blue and the sign designates it as handicap, you shall not park there unless you have a handicap sticker and it is displayed from your rear view mirror. If the curb is yellow and the sign says bus zone, that curb is for busses only. If a sign states, "no parking from here to corner", you cannot park between that sign and the corner of the street. These are only a few examples, so please pay attention to where you are stopping or parking.

We understand that people are in a hurry before and after school, however, our concern is for the safety of our students and public in general. We also understand that enforcing these parking areas may be frustrating to some, but to be fair, we cannot enforce one violation and not enforce another violation. We encourage parents to (1) park legally and walk up to the school and wait for their child, (2) speak with your child and designate a location to meet before and after school, (3) circle the area until your passenger is at the curb for you to pull up and unload or load them into the vehicle or (4) discuss alternative options. There is no perfect answer, but it is important that everyone work together in making our schools safe.

Thank You,

Andrew Staska  
School Resource Officer  
Jamestown Police Department