

**From:** [Cecilia Perez](#)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Pringle Road SE, School Zone Safety Improvements (Leslie Middle School)  
**Date:** Monday, July 22, 2024 4:32:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Hello,

I am beyond excited and hopeful to see that there is a proposal on tonight's agenda that would improve the current crossing conditions at Leslie and Parrish Middle School. I am the current office manager at Leslie and I have been advocating for crossing improvements since the 22-23 school year and it has been an exhausting never ending battle. Before me, a previous crossing guard advocated for several years as well.

Our crossing guards are the first and last staff member our students see every day. They are there to ensure that our students arrive and leave school safely and unfortunately, we are having a difficult time staffing this position due to unsafe conditions. We had a total of 10 different crossing guards in the last three school years. Many of them refused to continue with the position due to the number of reckless drivers. Half of them had near miss scares. In the 22-23 school year, I called 911 and the non-emergency line twice to report drivers and was told that nothing could be done. They said that if a police officer was available, they would try to patrol our school during arrival/dismal. We did not see an officer until November of the following school year. With clear evidence that there were multiple drivers speeding, no one was stopped or ticketed.

These are three major documented incidents that occurred:

- May 8<sup>th</sup> 2023: A vehicle was speeding not paying attention to the school zone. We had our crossing guard in the middle of the intersection and had to pull a student out of the way. The car stopped in the middle of the intersection and sped off. Thankfully, no one was injured, and a police report was submitted. But they didn't have hope in finding the driver.
- Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 2023: I had a parent call the office complaining that the crossing guard told them to slow down. He stated "I was not speeding, I was going 30mph. She has no right to tell me to slow down." Reminded him that the speed is 20mph and our priority is the safety of our students.
- Jan 12<sup>th</sup> 2024: 9:00AM our crossing guard was in the middle of the street helping a student cross when a car was less than a few feet of hitting her. The driver was clearly distracted on their phone. They reacted by swerving and continued driving down Pringle Rd towards Kuebler.

Please note that while I have noted only three incidents, it does not include all the drivers constantly speeding and not respecting the school zone. I urge the city to pass this proposal that will improve the safety of our students and staff.

Thank you,



**Cecilia Perez** She/Her  
Office Manager

[Leslie Middle School](#)

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**From:** [noreply@cityofsalem.net](mailto:noreply@cityofsalem.net) on behalf of [jessolsen@hotmail.com](mailto:jessolsen@hotmail.com)  
**To:** [CityRecorder](#)  
**Subject:** Contact City Recorder  
**Date:** Monday, July 22, 2024 4:15:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [ATT00001.bin](#)

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Your Name	Jessica Kunkel
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Your Phone	7198380707
Street	945 Cross Street SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97302
Message	<p>I am writing in support to the additional pedestrian school safety support for the Morningside neighborhood crossing over Pringle to Leslie MS. I have been a crossing guard during the morning for over a year and have encountered numerous moments of danger. The current warnings and lights are not slowing or alerting the traffic to the full effectiveness necessary. I have taken on this sometimes infuriating task out of necessity because no one wants to continue that task in its current state. Please approve the request for this funding. Our students and staff need to have the safety they deserve to attend school.</p>

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