

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Parent & Student School Bus Safety Tips and Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law; Extracted from Pennsylvania Department of Transportation website : www.penndot.gov

Tips for Parents & Students

- Get to the school bus stop five minutes early so you won't have to run across the road to catch the bus.
- When waiting for the bus, stay away from traffic. Line up at least five giant steps away from the curb or the roadway to wait for the bus.
- Never run after the school bus if it has already left the bus stop.
- Never push when getting on or off of the school bus.
- Always walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus when crossing so that the school bus driver can see you.
- Be aware — cross with care! Wait until the school bus has stopped all traffic before stepping out onto the road.
- When the school bus is moving, always stay in your seat. Never put your head, arms or hands out of the window.
- Talk quietly; do not distract your school bus driver.
- If your school bus crosses railroad tracks, be calm and quiet so that your driver can listen for a train. Always obey your school bus driver's instructions, so that he or she can make safe decisions.
- Never play with the emergency exits. Backpacks, band instruments, or sports equipment may not block the aisle or emergency exits. If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.
- When getting off of the school bus, make sure that all drawstrings and other loose objects are secure so that they don't get caught on the handrail or the door.
- Never cross the street behind the school bus.
If you leave something on the bus or drop something outside of the bus, never go back for it. The driver may not see you and begin moving the bus.
- Never speak to strangers at the bus stop and never get into the car with a stranger.



PENNSYLVANIA'S SCHOOL BUS STOPPING LAW

Keeping Children Safe

PENNSYLVANIA'S SCHOOL BUS STOPPING LAW

- ◆ When you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
- ◆ When you approach an intersection where a school bus is stopped with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
- ◆ You **MUST STOP** at least ten (10) feet away from the school bus.
- ◆ You **MUST WAIT** until the red lights have stopped flashing and the stop arm has been withdrawn before moving.
- ◆ **DO NOT MOVE** until all the children have reached a place of safety.

KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

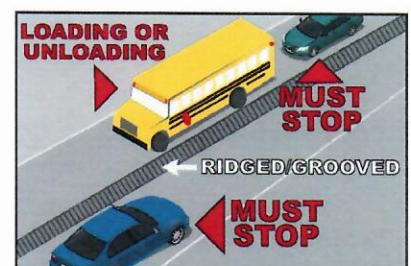
- ◆ 1.5 million children are transported on Pennsylvania roads each day.
- ◆ These children are transported approximately 400 million miles to school each year.
- ◆ Every year, children are needlessly injured or killed by drivers passing stopped school buses.



You **MUST STOP** on roadways with painted lines.



You **MUST STOP** at an intersection, whether it is or is not marked with a stop sign. All traffic **MUST** stop.



You **MUST STOP** on roadways with ridged/grooved dividers.

Our Children's Safety Is In Your Hands.



SCHOOL BUS STOPPING LAW

PENALTIES

If you are convicted of violating Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, you will receive all of the following penalties:

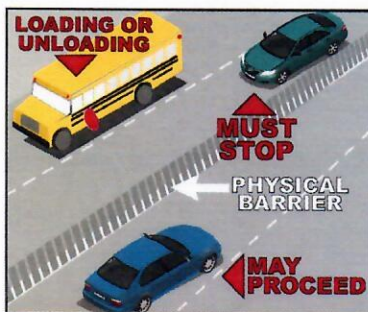
- ◆ 60-Day Driver's License Suspension
- ◆ Five (5) points on your driving record
- ◆ \$250 Fine

Annually, more than 700 drivers are convicted for passing a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing.

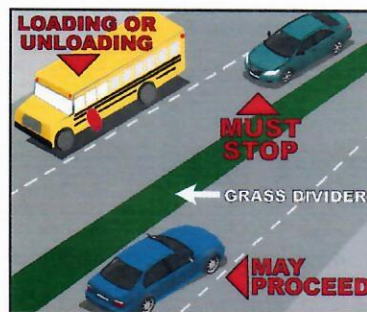
SEPARATE ROADWAYS

Drivers may proceed on a highway with clearly defined dividing sections or physical barriers providing separate roadways. This only applies when the school bus is on the opposite side of the road.

If In Doubt, STOP!



Physical barriers include concrete median barriers, metal median barriers, guide rails, etc.



Clearly indicated dividing sections include trees or shrubs, rocks or boulders, a stream, grass, etc.



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For more information on Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, including an animated graphic demonstrating when you must stop, visit www.penndot.gov/safety and click on "Traffic Safety & Driver Topics" and then "School Bus Safety".