



Moving Toward Zero— Reducing Illegal Passing of School Buses

Charlie Hood, Executive Director, NASDPTS

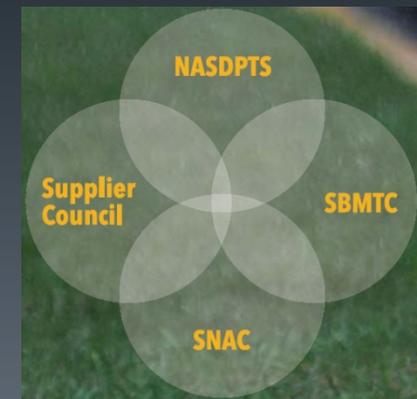
Mike Martin, Executive Director, NAPT

Ronna Weber, Executive Director, NSTA

December 1, 2016

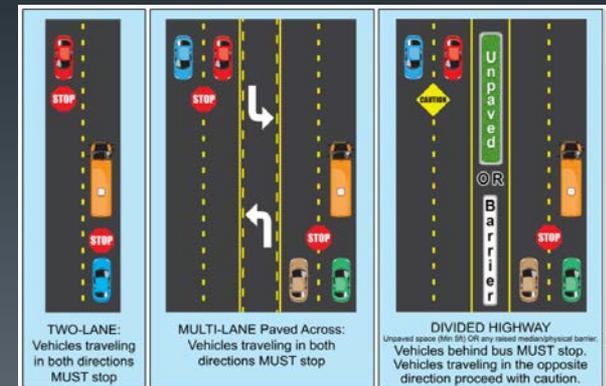
National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services

- Provides leadership, assistance, and service to the nation's student transportation community
- Membership includes state directors, state associations, suppliers (bus OEMs, component and service providers), and others
- School Bus Manufacturers Technical Council provides technical expertise from large and small bus OEMs



Illegal Passing—the Big Picture

- Why is reducing illegal passing a priority?
- How prevalent is it?
- What are the dangers?
- What are the contributing causes?
- What are some safety countermeasures?
- Who are the safety partners?
- How can we move toward zero?



Quantifying the Obvious



- In 2010 NASDPTS conferees adopted a resolution establishing the first Stop Arm Violation Survey
- Goal was to quantify anecdotal evidence that motorists were frequently passing stopped school buses illegally
- National survey was to expand on prior state surveys (e.g., Florida and North Carolina)
- States instructed to have drivers report illegal passing incidents during a one-day “snapshot” in the spring
- NASDPTS established the standard reporting form and procedures
- Data collected was intentionally minimal--drivers were cautioned that attention to safety of students during loading and unloading was priority number one

SCHOOL BUS ILLEGAL PASSING DRIVER SURVEY (Wednesday, xx/xx/20XX)



DEAR SCHOOL BUS DRIVER: Our state is participating in a national survey of vehicles that illegally pass stopped school buses that are loading and unloading students. Please observe the vehicles that illegally pass your school bus while it is stopped with STOP ARM(s) extended on (insert day/date) and put an X in the appropriate blanks. Please report any vehicles observed illegally passing your stopped school bus. REMEMBER: Please take extreme caution when completing the form - YOUR MAIN RESPONSIBILITY IS TO THE SAFETY OF YOUR STUDENTS. Time permitting, please complete as much information as possible and submit to your supervisor by/within (specify deadline). This form should be completed by each driver on the day of the illegal passing count. Please turn in this form to your supervisor EVEN IF THERE ARE NO VIOLATIONS TO REPORT.

School/District/Employer _____

Driver (your) Name: _____

Bus #: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: FILL OUT ONE ROW FOR EACH VEHICLE THAT PASSES YOUR BUS.

Example: If three vehicles pass at the same bus stop, use three rows. If there were no pass-bys of your bus on the day of the survey, leave all rows blank.

I had no pass-by's during today's survey (turn in form with rows below blank).

WHEN did the vehicle illegally pass your stopped school bus? (insert "X")	Vehicle Passed from WHAT DIRECTION?: (insert "X")	Vehicles Passed on WHICH SIDE of the Bus? (insert "X")
____ AM ____ Mid-day ____ PM	____ Front (Opposite Direction) ____ Rear (Same Direction)	____ Left (driver side) ____ Right (door side)
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Please report only violations that meet the following criteria:

- (1) BUS IS COMPLETELY STOPPED
- (2) BUS RED LIGHTS ARE FLASHING AND STOP SIGN(S) EXTENDED
- (3) VEHICLE(S) ILLEGALLY PASS BY THE RIGHT OR LEFT SIDE OF BUS DURING STOP

This data collection form should be completed by each bus driver on the day of the illegal passing count and should be turned in to a supervisor EVEN IF THERE ARE NO VIOLATIONS TO REPORT. Use more than one page if needed.

NASDPTS Illegal Passing Survey



- Completed annually since 2011 to document incidence of this well known safety threat
- 2016 survey results:
 - 96K school bus drivers in 33 states, plus DC, participated
 - 74K motorists illegally passed stopped buses
- Complete results available at <http://www.nasdpts.org/StopArm/index.html>



National Association
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Multi-year Summary

Survey Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Average
Number of States	28	26	29	29	26	33	28
Number of Drivers	111,914	99,930	108,436	97,265	102,371	96,540	103,983
Total Vehicles Passing Illegally	76,685	88,025	85,279	75,966	78,518	74,421	80,895
Vehicles Passing per Bus	0.69	0.88	0.79	0.78	0.77	0.77	0.78

Survey Takeaways

- Results unfortunately consistent over six years
- About 20 percent of the nation's school bus drivers participate
- Just over half of states participate
- AM and PM passes about equal
- About 58% of passes from front, 42% from rear
- Equates to over 13M per year
- 2% are on right side!



Right Side – Washington State

The screenshot shows a web browser with several tabs open, including Google Calendar, North Carolina news, and the current page: "Speeding SUV Nearly Hits 3 School Children". The address bar shows the URL: <https://gma.yahoo.com/video/speeding-suv-nearly-hits-3-115926915.html>. The browser's toolbar includes navigation buttons and various utility icons.

The Yahoo! News header features the logo, a search bar with "Search News" and "Search Web" buttons, and links for "Sign In", "Mail", and "Settings". Below the header, there are promotional banners for "Mother's Day Gifts" and other products like "Coach watches for women", "Juicy Couture perfume", "Lighted makeup mirrors", and "Silk pillowcase".

The main content area is divided into several sections:

- GMA Home**: A sidebar menu with links to Video, Photos, ABC News, Yahoo News, Good News, Money, Health, Life and Style, Entertainment, Recipes, GMA Insider, and Oscars.
- Now watching**: A large video player for "Speeding SUV Nearly Hits 3 School Children". The video player includes social media sharing icons (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Email) and a "UP NEXT" section showing a preview for "State of Emergency in Baltimore After Violence Breaks Out".
- UP NEXT**: A row of five small video thumbnails with a right-pointing arrow.
- Speeding SUV Nearly Hits 3 School Children**: A text block below the video player, starting with "by ABC News Videos 2:09 mins" and "Washington state school bus camera records alleged reckless driver who nearly hit the young students."
- Testimony in Marathon Bomber's Trial Turns to Sister-in-Law**: A text block with a play button icon.
- Lawyers for Germanwings Families Weigh Bringing Case in US**: A text block with a play button icon.
- Supreme Court Hears Historic Same-Sex Marriage Arguments**: A text block with a play button icon.
- Migrant Soccer Team's Goal Integration Into Southern Italy**: A text block with a play button icon.
- Obama Says US, Japan Can Overcome Tough Politics on Trade**: A text block with a play button icon.
- 1 Year Later: Rebuilding From Devastating Mississippi Storms**: A text block with a play button icon.

At the bottom right, there is a large advertisement for T-Mobile featuring a Samsung Galaxy S6 edge smartphone. The ad text reads: "GET AHEAD OF THE CURVE WE'LL PAY YOUR SWITCHING FEES". Below the ad, there is a "GET IT NOW" button and a link to "See www.T-Mobile.com for full offer details. Visa Card issued by MetaBank. Member FDIC. Card expires."

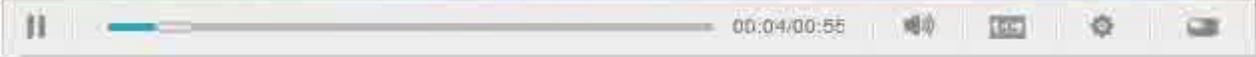
The word "Featured" is visible at the bottom of the page.

Semi driver that nearly hit student boarding bus turns self in

Posted: Jun 04, 2014 12:54 AM EDT
Updated: Jun 04, 2014 6:43 PM EDT

by Shelby Capacio - email

Recommend 3.3k [Facebook] [Twitter] [Email] [Print] [Share] 73



MOST SHARED

On Your phone fire

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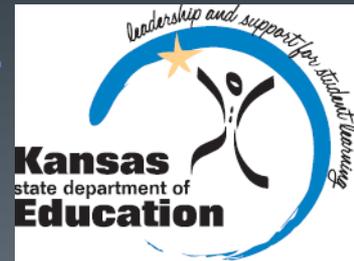
Jesse Ve What's ta

On Your fire

2014 ESCA

Student Loading Zone Fatalities

- Kansas has conducted annual surveys of all states since 1970
- During past five years (FY2011 through FY 2015), nationally:
 - Average of five students per year killed by vehicle illegally passing school bus
 - Average of three students per year killed by own bus
- <http://www.ksde.org/Agency/Fiscal-and-Administrative-Services/School-Finance/School-Bus-Safety/Loading-and-Unloading-Surveys>



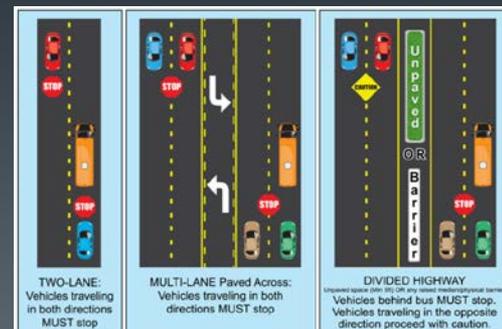
Kansas Survey 45-year Trends

- 65% of fatalities PM; 32% AM
- 66% of fatalities were children 8 years old or younger
- Most fatalities in daylight, clear weather
- No significant difference in boys vs. girls killed
- No significant difference in day of week (M-F)



Survey of State Laws

- In 2013 NASDPTS conducted survey on state laws requiring motorists to stop for school buses
- 37 states responded
- All states required motorists to stop from both directions on two lane roads
- For roads of 3 or more lanes, all required motorists to stop when approaching from rear
- Most states allow motorists opposing bus to proceed if there is an unpaved median
- In 26 states law enforcement **MUST** witness violation to secure a criminal penalty
- 17 states allow photo/video evidence
- Significant variations in laws, consequences



Loading Zone Safety

- Yellow school bus transportation remains far safer than other modes
- For example, less than one percent of youth fatalities during school travel hours are in school buses, versus 57 percent when riding with teen drivers and 23 percent with adult drivers (www.schoolbusfacts.com)
- Loading zone safety remains our priority
- Required safety countermeasures are a complex mix of laws, policies, and best practices that include...



Safety Countermeasures

- Prevention of stop arm violations through public awareness and enforcement
- Student rider training
- School bus driver training in crossing and student signaling procedures
- Vehicle factors (mirrors, high visibility lighting, pupil crossing arms, conspicuity)
- School bus stop placement
- State laws and penalties for violations



Safety Countermeasures

- Documenting the problem:
 - Illegal passing surveys
 - Identification of high violation areas
 - Video or photo recording of violations
 - Notification of high violation areas to public and law enforcement
- Public awareness efforts:
 - State law on required motorist actions when encountering buses slowing or stopped
 - Back to school safety messaging
 - Discussion of consequences (not just civil or criminal penalties)

Safety Countermeasures

- Enforcement:
 - Ongoing relationship with local and state police
 - Training and awareness for prosecutors and judiciary
 - Priority on most vulnerable locations
 - Ongoing enforcement and enforcement blitzes
 - Police presence emphasis during back to school, Safety Week, Love the Bus
 - Citations from photo or video evidence (if legal)
 - Longitudinal tracking of enforcement frequency
- Student rider training on bus stop waiting location, potential hazards, crossing procedures
- Driver training in stopping sequence, student crossing, and student signaling procedures

Gaps and Data Needs



- National data is needed on:
 - State laws re: stopping for buses
 - State and local enforcement levels
 - Related student injuries
 - State regs and training of drivers and students (e.g., crossing procedures)
 - Effectiveness of countermeasures (e.g., photo/video enforcement)
 - Further analysis of Kansas and/or FARS data

Model Policies, Best Practices

- For discussion, is there need for?:
 - Model state law re: stopping for buses
 - National priority on illegal passing enforcement (e.g., targeted grants)
 - Model training curricula for school bus drivers and student riders
 - Model state law on photo/video enforcement
 - Promoting loading safety-related vehicle specifications and operational procedures of National Congress on School Transportation (ncstonline.org)



NATIONAL SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SPECIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES



75
Years

May 2015

Adopted by the 16th National Congress on School Transportation

Contact Info

- ExecDir@nasdpts.org (Charlie Hood)
- 850-274-4308
- www.nasdpts.org



Contact Info



Mike.Martin@napt.org

800-989-NAPT (6278)

www.NAPT.org

rweber@yellowbuses.org (Ronna Weber)

703-684-3200

www.yellowbuses.org (NSTA)