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February 28, 2020

TO: School District Transportation Directors

SUBJECT: School Bus Illegal Passing Survey

FROM: Pete Japikse, Ohio School Boards Association

With the knowledge that motorists nationwide are violating school bus stopping laws and harming children, many are asking what we can do to help increase safety at the bus stop. These accidents have reminded us of the vulnerability of our students when they are outside the bus in the “danger zone.”

During the month of March, school districts nationwide are participating with the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation to collect data that quantifies the enormity of school bus passing violations.

As we did last March, we are requesting your assistance in this important project.

On Wednesday, March 4, please ask your district’s school bus operators to observe and report any instances of motorists illegally passing their school buses, using the attached form. *Even drivers who have no violators on the day of the survey should turn in the form so that we can get accurate data on how many violators occur per day per bus.*

If this day is not convenient for your district, please select another day during this week to participate in the survey.

Ask your drivers to pay particular attention to the instructions and safety precautions. As always, their primary duty is to the safety of their students. Please have your drivers pay particular attention to the bottom of the form where they are instructed to ***“report only illegal passes that occur while the bus driver is stopped with red warning lights flashing and stop arm(s) deployed in full compliance with our state training and procedures.”***

Please collect your district’s results and report them no later than March 11th by filling out the designated form below and returning to the Ohio School Boards Association.

Transportation Office Ohio School Boards Association
8050 North High Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43235

You may scan and email the forms back if that is more convenient.
Email to Schoolbus@Ohioschoolboards.org

Thank you for your help with this important initiative.

Links to forms:
[Driver reporting form](#)
[District summary spreadsheet](#)

Ohio School Boards Association
8050 N High St, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43235

<http://www.ohioschoolboards.org>

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