



Susana Martinez
Governor

Tom Church
Cabinet Secretary

August 6, 2014

Press Release

Safety Tips for Back to School from the New Mexico Department of Transportation

Las Cruces - The New Mexico Department of Transportation District One office would like to remind motorists of their ABC's... "Always Be Cautious." With school in session, here are some basic Traffic Laws for the traveling public and pedestrians to remember when approaching school zones.

General traffic laws for Pedestrians and Motorists:

- No person shall exceed fifteen miles per hour while driving a vehicle on a highway while passing through school zones.
- A traveling vehicle shall yield to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within designated walkways.
- Every pedestrian crossing the roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk, or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, shall yield at the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.
- Motorists shall not pass school buses when they display their stop sign and signal flashing lights.
- Bus lights are indicators for motorists that the bus is in the process of picking up or dropping off students.

Safety is a tool that we all must use as children head back to school. Please continue to educate others about the ABC's... "Always Be Cautious" and to be alert when passing through or near school zones. In addition, make sure to look both ways when crossing an intersection as pedestrians and cyclists may be near the area.

Tom Church, Secretary of the NMDOT, stated, "Taking the necessary precautionary measures should be a priority for every family as children return to school. It is important for parents to obey traffic laws and be aware of proper safety precautions which can be shared with their children in order to keep them safe throughout the school year."

###

For more information regarding this message, contact Bridget M. Spedalieri, NMDOT District One Public Information Officer at (575) 525-7340.