



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Michael R. Sandoval, *Cabinet Secretary*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 5, 2021

NMDOT District Two back to school traffic safety reminders

ROSWELL – As students across Southeastern New Mexico begin the school year, the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) District Two wants to remind motorists and pedestrians to think about traffic laws when in or near a school zone. By following the law, New Mexico children can reach school safely, and drivers can avoid costly fines and tickets.

“Schools are reopening, and we must keep our kids safe as they head back to the classroom,” said Francisco Sanchez, District Two Engineer. “Motorists are advised to be extra careful and observe traffic laws in schools zones with classroom learning.”

General State of New Mexico traffic laws to help keep motorists and pedestrians, especially kids, safe in school zones:

- No person shall exceed fifteen miles per hour while driving a vehicle on a highway while passing through a school zone (unless otherwise posted)
- 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 the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway
- No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield
- Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle
- Crosswalks may be established over highways abutting a school or the grounds adjacent to a school, and all children crossing the highway shall be required to do so within the marked crosswalks
- Every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary and observe proper precaution upon seeing any child or any confused or incapacitated person on the roadway

Motorists are asked to watch for children when school is underway. When crossing an intersection, it is advised to look in both directions. NMDOT District Two wants to encourage everyone to observe school zone traffic laws to help keep our communities and kids safe.



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NMDOT
Mobility for everyone

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