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TO: State Transportation Directors
FROM: Ronna Weber
DATE: March 9, 2022
SUBJECT: National School Bus Illegal Passing Survey – 2022

After two years of not being able to hold the NASDPTS Illegal Passing Survey due to the COVID Pandemic, we are pleased to report that NASDPTS will be conducting our Illegal Passing Survey once again and the Survey is now open.

School buses remain the safest way for students to get to and from school and while we know that student riders are most vulnerable when they are outside the bus and in the “danger zone,” we also know much has changed during the pandemic with respect to student and motorist behavior. Because of these changes, having a current measurement of illegal passings of stopped school buses has never been more important.

This survey is designed to aggregate data from school bus drivers (public and contracted) on the number of illegal passing incidents within each state. As an incentive to participate, the NASDPTS Board has determined that NASDPTS Annual Meeting scholarships (for registration and/or travel costs) will only be available to state directors whose states participate in this illegal passing survey and the annual Kansas Department of Education Loading/Unloading Fatalities Survey, which will be available later this year.

In a handful of states, collection of data by state agencies is discouraged or prohibited. If you are in such a state, we encourage you to reach out to your state student transportation association for help in coordinating the survey.

We encourage states to use the preferred method of aggregating the illegal passing data at the state level and reporting one set of “bottom line” totals to the NASDPTS survey. Please select a representative “snapshot” day for your state’s drivers to record illegal passing during the period from today, March 9, through the end of the survey, Friday, May 27, 2022.

Alternatively, state directors may allow local school districts to select a day of their choosing and may instruct or request that local school districts report directly to the NASDPTS survey. We have provided more information and tools below to assist you with either method.

For your ease there is one uniform link for collecting data from each state or its local school districts. That link can be found here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y6HYW7G>.

Please be sure that you select only one method of reporting (either State or Local) within your state in order to eliminate duplication of data.

All the information you will need to launch the survey in your state will be on the NASDPTS website at <https://nasdpts.org/stop-arm-violations/#instructions>. Information posted there includes:

- The link that you or your districts can use to complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y6HYW7G>.
- The [reporting form](#) drivers should use to ensure that they record illegal passing in a nationally consistent format.
- A [sample letter](#) that you can send to your school districts to announce and launch the survey.
- A spreadsheet that you can use within your office to collect and aggregate the data from each of your state's school districts (the [state spreadsheet](#)), and,
- A spreadsheet that your local school districts can use to collect and total the data from each of their individual driver forms (the [local spreadsheet](#)).

Since the advent of the survey, we have seen state initiatives to improve motorist education about school bus stopping laws. We have also seen changes in state legislatures to increase penalties, improve enforcement, and authorize the use of photo evidence to issue citations. This survey data has been instrumental in documenting a continuing need for greater safety countermeasures at the state and national level, including the commitment by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to conduct a targeted national safety campaign.

If you have questions, please contact me at ExecDir@nasdpts.org. We look forward to your state's participation, and we thank you for your commitment to student transportation safety.

Sincerely,



Ronna Weber
NASDPTS Executive Director