



Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001
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James T. Meeks
Chairman

Tony Smith, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Education

April 17, 2018

TO: Local School District Transportation Directors and Contractors (as applicable)

SUBJECT: 2018 National School Bus Illegal Passing Survey

FROM: Mike Stier, Principal Consultant – Pupil Transportation

While school buses remain incredibly safe, we all know that students are most vulnerable when they are outside the bus in the “danger zone.” Illinois is assisting the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS) in coordinating a national survey to document illegal passing of school buses. The data will help improve safety countermeasures at the state or national level.

We are requesting your assistance in this important project. On **Wednesday, May 9, 2018**, please have your district’s school bus operators observe and report any instances of motorists illegally passing their school buses, using the attached form. *Even drivers who have no “pass-bys” on the day of the survey should turn in the form, so that we can get accurate data on how many pass-bys occur per day per bus.*

Please instruct 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 **Friday, May 20, 2018**, as follows:

Each district is to tabulate their totals on the Illegal Passing Summary Tool (spreadsheet). Once tabulated, even if the totals are zero, report your district’s data directly to the NASDPTS survey link at: (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018IllegalPassingSurvey>)

Drivers conduct the survey: Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Deadline to report your district results to NASDPTS: Friday, May 18, 2018

If you should have any questions, feel free to contact me at (217) 782-5256 or mstier@ISBE.net.

Thank you for your help with this important initiative.

Attachments: Illegal Passing Driver Reporting Form
Illegal Passing Summary Tool (spreadsheet)