

Modes of School Transportation Task Force

DRAFT Recommendations – October 19 Meeting

1. Add Multifunction School Activity Buses (MFSAB) to Department of Transportation rules at 92 Ill. Administrative Code Part 447 School Bus Brake Inspections Requirements.
2. Add MFSAB to 625 ILCS 5/13-115 & 625 ILCS 5/12-816 Pre-trip and Post Trip Inspection Requirements.
3. Add MFSAB to the list of vehicles owned or operated by or for a public or private school in grades K-12 at 625 ILCS 5/11-1202 (New paragraph 4) that must stop at all railroad grade crossings.
4. Require a new decal for MFSABs at 625 ILCS 5/11-1202 (New subparagraph 4a) on the rear of the vehicle stating **“THIS VEHICLE STOPS AT ALL RXR GRADE CROSSINGS”**.
5. Align proposed changes at 625 ILCS 5/11-1202 with the *Illinois Professional School Bus Driver Training Curriculum* (i.e. regarding the hazard lamps being activated).
6. Require all drivers of a MFSAB owned or operated by or for a public or private school who transport children in grades K-12 to hold a valid Illinois School Bus Driver Permit (625 ILCS 5/6-106.1)
7. Allow a MFSAB to transport children on curricular, co-curricular or extra-curricular trips other than those between home and school for pupils in grades K-12 as long as they are not picked up or discharged in a location such as a public roadway that would require the use of traffic control devices. If special transportation is provided for students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the staff to student ratio must be 1 to 5.
8. Retain the required equipment of the “Crossing Control Arm” and “First Aid Kit” that IDOT is considering removing from 92 Ill. Adm. Code Parts 435 and 436 (MFSAB) (Construction and Inspection Standards).

The proposed changes will:

- Create consistency with the requirements of a school bus;
- Eliminate confusion for MFSAB drivers regardless of type of pupil transportation provided;
- Alert motorists of the MFSAB’s intentions when approaching railroad crossings; and,
- Increase student safety