



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 1, 2025

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Pupil Transportation Contacts

FROM: Troy Hansbarger, School District Consultant, Office of Health and Safety

SUBJECT: 2025 National School Bus Illegal Passing Survey

While school buses remain incredibly safe, we all know that students are most vulnerable when they are outside the bus in the "danger zone." Michigan 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 14, 2025, 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 23 as follows:

1. Drivers complete individual reporting forms on May 14 and submit to supervisor as soon as possible.
2. Supervisors compile driver data from reporting forms and complete local district reporting form (spreadsheet).
3. Supervisors submit local district reporting form to Troy Hansbarger at HansbargerT@Michigan.gov.

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Thank you for your assistance with this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Troy Hansbarger

Troy Hansbarger

Attachments: Illegal Passing Driver Reporting Form
Illegal Passing District Reporting Form (spreadsheet)