



NEWS RELEASE

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SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK BEGINS OCT. 21

Allen County's four public school districts are recognizing School Bus Safety Week Oct. 21-25 by reminding motorists to Slow. Stop. Stay. Slow down when yellow lights on a school bus are flashing; Stop when red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended; and Stay put until the lights stop flashing and children are out of the way.

With the support of Parkview Health Trauma Services, East Allen County Schools, Fort Wayne Community Schools, Northwest Allen County Schools and Southwest Allen County Schools launched the Slow. Stop. Stay. campaign in August in an effort to reduce stop arm violations.

Each day in Allen County, nearly 200 school bus stop-arm violations occur. This has been a critical issue in Allen County for many years, and the issue was elevated statewide last year when three children were killed in Rochester, Ind. while attempting to cross a road to board their school bus. The trial begins Tuesday for the driver of the vehicle, who faces three counts of reckless homicide.

Fort Wayne Police issued 129 citations for stop-arm violations during a special enforcement campaign from Aug. 13-Sept. 13. Fort Wayne Police, the Allen County Sheriff's Department and Indiana State Police have committed to continued enforcement using data from local schools to identify high violation areas. The Allen County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has committed to upholding the new stiffer penalties for violations approved by the Indiana General Assembly this year.

For School Bus Safety Week, the four school districts are continuing the information campaign, which includes billboards throughout the county sponsored by Parkview. Local churches are also joining the call for drivers to pay attention to stopped school buses. Associated Churches shared the [Slow. Stop. Stay. video](#) with its members and support promoting the safety campaign on Sunday as National School Bus Safety Week begins.

Slow. Stop. Stay. campaign will continue throughout the school year with additional printed materials, yard signs, billboards and social media campaigns. Visit www.slowstopstay.org to learn more.

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Krista J. Stockman, Public Information Officer

1200 South Clinton Street • Fort Wayne, IN 46802 • krista.stockman@fwcs.k12.in.us

Phone: 260.467.2022 • Fax: 260.467.1980 • Cell: 260.705.1893