



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2022

NMDOT reminds drivers to slow down in school zones

DEMING – School days are just around the corner and the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) wants to remind the traveling public and pedestrians to think about traffic laws when in or near a school zone.

Driver Safety Reminders:

- Slow down! Speed limits in school zones tend to be 5-10 miles per hour below the posted speed limit.
- Respect the crossing guard. Always stop for crossing guards holding a stop sign.
- Use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians, no matter who has the right of way.
- Be aware children can be unpredictable. Watch for children darting out from between parked cars or from school buses.
- Yield to pedestrians walking on a crosswalk.
- Do NOT stop on a marked crosswalk or impede a pedestrian's pathway at a marked intersection.
- Drivers must stop behind a school bus with flashing lights. Never pass a stopped school bus. The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children entering or exiting the bus.

Pedestrian Safety Reminders:

- Look both ways before crossing.
- Do not expect a driver to yield to you if you are crossing on an unmarked pathway.
- Wear bright colored or reflective clothing if walking at night.
- Only walk on designated sidewalks or pathways.
- Never jump into traffic or attempt to walk on the road.

Motorists are asked to watch for children when school is underway. When crossing an intersection, it is advised to look in both directions. The NMDOT wants to encourage all to observe school zones.

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NMDOT

Mobility for everyone