



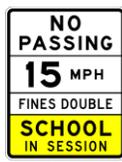
## Traffic Safety Around Schools

Parents, Family, and Friends of Maricopa School Students,

This flyer has been prepared by the Maricopa Police Department, with cooperation from your local school, in an effort to educate the public about traffic laws and enforcement around schools and school buses.

### SCHOOL CROSSINGS

- If a crossing guard is in the crosswalk, you must come to a complete stop regardless of what side of the road you are on. Wait until the crossing guard and all children are out of the crosswalk before proceeding.
- If no crossing guard is present, you must still stop when a child or adult is waiting to cross; they have the right of way. The only time this is not the case is when there is an actual traffic light, in which case pedestrians must wait for the green light/walk symbol before crossing. If turning right or left at a traffic light, make sure to give pedestrians the right of way.



### SCHOOL CROSSING ZONES

- A school crossing zone begins at the portable roll out sign before a school crossing (example at left) and ends on the other side of the crosswalk.
- The 15 MPH zone begins at the sign and ends after you cross the crosswalk.
- No passing means that you cannot drive around, overtake, or pass by, in any manner, another car while traveling through the school crossing zone. If, for example, another car is stopped within the school crossing zone waiting to make a right or left turn, you cannot drive by them – instead you may stop adjacent to them (a complete stop), look both ways for children, and only then proceed if clear.

### REQUIRED STOPS

- Complete stops are required at school crossings as mentioned in detail above.
- When exiting a school parking lot, you must come to a complete stop prior to the sidewalk, even when a stop sign is not present. This is to make sure no pedestrians are hit. Worry about pedestrians first and then cars. This law applies to all parking lots and driveways, not just those at schools.
- If approaching a school bus that is picking up or dropping off students, you must come to a complete stop before reaching the bus. The bus should have flashing lights and its stop sign extended, however, if you see students boarding or getting off you should stop even if the stop sign is not extended.
- You must stop whether approaching a school bus from either direction, unless the roadway is divided by a raised or other physical median. If this is the case and you are on

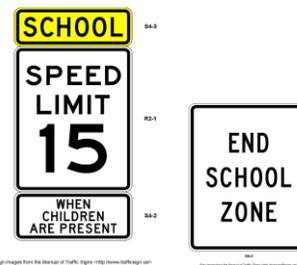


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the opposite side of the roadway from the bus, you may proceed without stopping. Painted lines by themselves on the roadway are not considered a physical median.

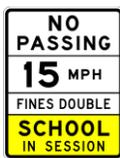
### GENERAL SCHOOL ZONES

- Signs, such as those to the left, are in effect always, whether school is in session or whether the portable school crossing zone signs are in place.
- Speed is restricted to 15 MPH at any time children are present (daytime/nighttime/weekends). The reason for this is because schools are often a place where school activities are ongoing even during non-school hours.
- When children are present, the 15 MPH speed limit must be adhered to until you pass the “End School Zone” sign (also shown to the right).



### NO PARKING

- No parking violations include not only physically parking the vehicle, but even stopping in prohibited areas, such as pulling over in a fire lane to drop a student off, even when the driver stays in the car.
- When No Parking signs are present, such as the one to the left, you may not park in that general area. Do not assume that a no parking zone begins or ends at any of these signs unless they specifically have a BEGIN or END sign directly under the No Parking sign itself.
- You may not park along the curb anywhere within the School Crossing Zone. The crossing zone begins at the school zone sign and ends at the crosswalk.
- Do not park anywhere along the street if doing so causes you to block a bike lane or a traffic lane. Your car may be towed.
- Do not park in fire lanes, which are designated by red painted curbing and/or by fire lane signs.



### SPEED ENFORCEMENT

- Speed in school zones is strictly enforced. It is not uncommon for drivers to be cited for speeds of only 1-5 MPH above the posted speed limit in school zones.
- Speedometers are often the least accurate at slower speeds, so err on the side of caution and drive a little under the speed limit in school zones.