## **Local News**

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## Dexter Police to Enforce School Bus Safety with Start of School

AUGUST 23RD 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Dexter Police to Enforce School Bus Safety with Start of School

It's that time of year again to increase awareness regarding school bus stop arm safety! Dexter Police Department reminds all drivers to be extra cautious when driving during morning and afternoon hours when school buses are on the road.

Displayed yellow flashing lights on school buses does not mean hurry up to beat the red lights! The yellow lights mean the school bus is approaching a bus stop to load or unload children. Be alert, there could possibly be little brothers and/or sisters at the bus stop waiting for their siblings to get home from school and they are not watching for you. Please be prepared to stop!

Displayed red flashing lights, crossing arms, and/or stop signs, on school buses mean all drivers MUST stop and yield to all pedestrians. It's the law and you will receive a ticket if you do not stop.

"Dexter School buses are equipped with digital cameras that record in a high clear resolution," commented Sergeant Forshee, Dexter Police (SRO) School Resource Officer. "Those cameras and recordings are used in identifying vehicles, drivers, and used for prosecution of offenders who fail to stop for school buses."

"At the beginning of 2022 school year, the Dexter Police Department issued approximately 30 tickets for failure to stop for school buses while loading/unloading students in the school's first semester alone," continued Sergeant Forshee. "This is a big safety concern for our children! We will be on patrol and you will get a ticket if caught failing to stop for any school buses while loading/unloading children."

Further, be cautious of all pedestrian traffic in and around the schools when travelling in the area.

"We have two new crosswalks near Dexter Public Schools this year to help with the pedestrian traffic," stated Sergeant Forshee. "One is located at the corner of One Mile Rd and Brown Pilot Rd. The second is located on Grant Street in front of the high school."

"Our student's safety is our number one priority! Please do your part to help keep our children safe as they travel to and from school this year."

Dexter Public Schools begin their 2023-2024 academic year on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

"Please allow extra time to get to and from school during the morning and afternoon hours," commented Tim Fowler, Dexter R-XI Schools Transportation Supervisor, "Also slow down as the speed limit is 20 mph around the school campus."

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