



# NEWLOTHROP AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Clarification on NLAPS Bussing Procedures

This communication is meant for clarification purposes. I have had several questions regarding bussing procedures as it relates to using hazard lights (i.e. flashing yellow lights) on M-57 and M-13, instead of flashing red lights. As a disclaimer, neighboring districts may have different procedures as it relates to bus signaling on these two rural highways. However, under Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL), section 257.1855, Act 187 of 1990 of THE PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ACT (EXCERPT):

257.1855 Actuation of alternately flashing lights; procedures for receiving and discharging pupils from bus; crossing road; prohibited stops; instruction on proper school bus etiquette; reimbursement; "required to cross the roadway" explained; visibility.

(f) Except as provided in subdivision (e), if the pupils are not required to cross the roadway and where the school bus may be pulled off the roadway or private road or where the road has adequate width for the school bus to be pulled off to the far right of the roadway or private road leaving the normal traffic flow unobstructed and to provide for the safety of pupils being boarded or discharged, the driver shall activate the hazard warning lights before the stop and continue to display the lights until the process of receiving or discharging passengers has been completed. Before resuming motion, the driver shall deactivate these lights. The driver of a school bus shall only use this procedure at stops where the school administrator or entity under contract with a school to provide pupil transportation services has approved its use. If this hazard warning light option is not used, the driver shall use the appropriate procedure in subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (d) as if pupils were not required to cross the roadway.

As a district, New Lothrop Area Public Schools buses will use yellow lights as hazards to pick up and drop off students on M-57 & M-13; motorists need to proceed with caution but are able to pass to avoid potential congestion traveling at the posted rural highway speed limits. In addition, please abide by the traffic laws as it relates to bus drivers using their red lights for drop pick-up and drop-off purposes. The safety of our students is first and foremost and we will report any infractions to the proper authorities. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (810) 638-5091.

Sincerely,

Anthony Berthiaume, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

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