

TIPS FOR DRIVING SAFELY THROUGH SCHOOL ZONES



- Expect the unexpected. Children may cross the street at the wrong place, or unexpectedly run or ride in front of you.
- Know what is around you. It's easier to anticipate that children (or parents) will do that which is unexpected if you're aware that they are there.
- Be courteous. Parents who are running late may need to get back into traffic after dropping their child off. Give them a break.
- Obey all laws. Don't travel faster than 15 miles per hour, and travel even slower if there are a few children along the road or crossing the street. Come to a full stop at intersections.
- Be predictable. Don't make sudden maneuvers that others, particularly children on foot or on a bicycle, aren't expecting.
- Don't be distracted. Put down the coffee, put down the cell phone, and put both hands on the wheel. Avoid distractions within your vehicle, including loud music.
- Ensure your children are secured in a correctly installed child restraint system.
- Yield the right of way to pedestrians. It isn't just courteous, it's the law.
- Stop in either direction for a school bus with its red lights flashing. If the bus is outfitted with flashing yellow lights, anticipate it will soon stop and children may be crossing in front of you.
- Be patient!
- Avoid traffic around your school by parking a block away and walking your child the rest of the way.
- Follow your school's traffic pattern for drop-off and pick-up.
- Walk your child to school to reduce traffic congestion and improve health.
- Drop children off on the school-side of the street. Avoid having them cross the street.
- Teach your child to look all ways (left, right, behind and front) and then to walk cautiously when crossing a street.

www.rocktonpolice.org