

Subject: RTMSD Launches School Bus Safety Program for New School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As our students return to school this September, the District is proud to announce the start of a new School Bus Safety Program in partnership with local law enforcement and in line with PA Motor Vehicle Code § 3345.

As part of the program, all school buses that transport RTMSD students will be outfitted with safety technology to make the ride to and from school safer for all. This technology includes stop-arm enforcement cameras designed to detect vehicles that illegally pass stopped school buses while the bus's stop sign arm and red lights are engaged. The police department then reviews the footage to determine whether to issue a violation by mail.

The safety of our children is a top priority. Pennsylvania's Operation Safe Stop reported more than 250 illegal passes in just one school day in 2021, and reports estimate that state school buses are illegally passed 2.18 times per bus per day. RTMSD is no exception. Over time, this safety initiative seeks to curb dangerous driving behavior around school buses.

In addition to automated enforcement technology, our buses will be outfitted with other critical safety features, including interior cameras, GPS tracking, and emergency response solutions.

All this technology has been provided at zero cost to the school district or taxpayers as the program is 100% violator funded.

[More information about the BusPatrol program can be found on the District website.](#)

We look forward to seeing you this fall for the return to school!