



Beaverton Police Department

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Chief Jim Monger



NEWS RELEASE

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Back to School Traffic Safety

Beaverton School District students will be returning to school on Tuesday September 6th. The Beaverton Police Department, along with the Beaverton School District, would like to remind drivers to be alert while traveling near schools. With the increased number of children walking, as well as the increased number of vehicles, drivers should be extremely cautious. They should also be aware the school speed zones will be back in effect and there will be many school buses back on the roads.

The Beaverton Police Traffic Unit will be conducting high visibility traffic enforcement at various schools and school bus stops.

It is important to remember when driving near any school that there will be children in the area. Look for the school zone signs and follow the requirements set by the sign. When the school zone is in effect the maximum speed is 20 MPH.

Some of the school zones in Beaverton are controlled by flashing yellow lights that designate when the school zone is in effect. Others are in effect from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Some school zone speed limits are in effect only "When Children Present." Children are present when they are occupying or walking within a crosswalk or are standing on the curb or shoulder at a crosswalk. Additionally, if a school crossing guard is present at a crosswalk, a driver must obey the posted 20 MPH speed limit. Because there are so many different zones, it is important to familiarize yourself now with the school zones you travel through, so when school starts, you know what is expected.

School buses will be out at various times throughout the day picking up and dropping off children. If you come upon a school bus that is stopped with its red bus safety lights on, you **MUST** stop. Once the red safety lights have been turned off you may then proceed. This applies to vehicles meeting or overtaking the bus from either direction. The only exception to this is if the school bus is stopped on the opposite side of the street and there is a permanent, raised center median dividing lanes of travel.

For further information, please reference ORS 811.124 and ORS 811.155

##BPD##

