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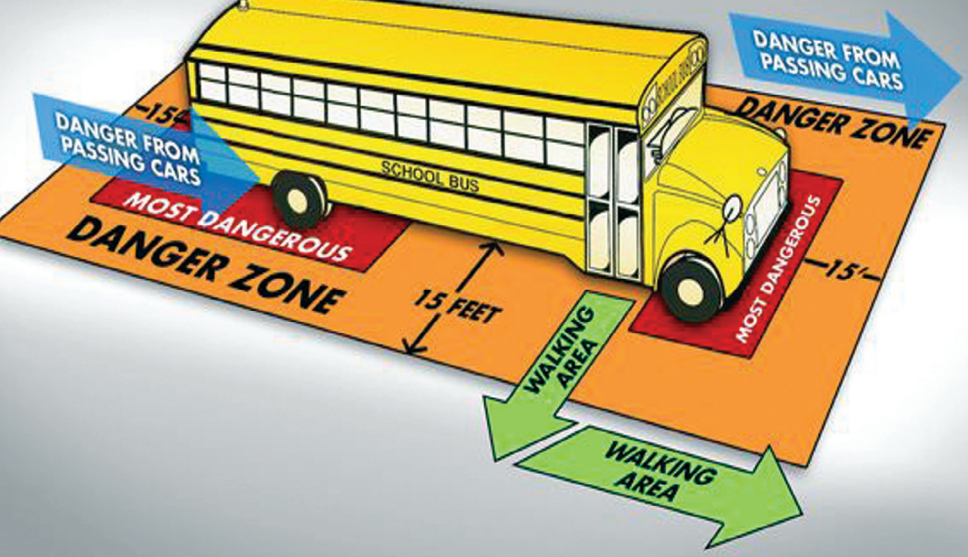
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FROM

12¢

Let's keep our school roadways safe this September



As the new school year begins, more children will be walking and biking in and around school areas. To help keep everyone safe, drivers are reminded to slow down, follow posted speed limits, and respect all traffic signs, including no parking and no stopping zones.

Municipal Law Enforcement Officers will be actively monitoring school zones and enforcing parking regulations to protect pedestrians. Please do not park in fire routes, block driveways, or obstruct sidewalks.

Let's work together to make school routes safe for everyone.

Important Safety Reminders

No Stopping Zones
Stopping is not permitted, even for quick drop-offs or pick-ups.

These zones are located where stopping could cause traffic hazards, congestion, or interfere with school crossings.

Fines increase with each violation: \$60 → \$80 → \$100.

No Parking Zones

Brief stops are allowed for actively picking up or dropping off children—drivers must stay in the vehicle.

Parking while waiting is not allowed.

Fines range from \$40 to \$80, depending on the location.

Fire route fines are higher: \$100 → \$120 → \$140.

School Crossing Zones

Please follow the City's three-whistle system used by crossing guards:

First Whistle – Guard enters the road with stop sign; traffic must stop.

Second Whistle – Signals it's safe for children to cross.

Third Whistle – After all children have crossed, the guard clears the road, and traffic may resume.

Driver Responsibilities:

Watch for children and be prepared to stop at any time

Wait until all children have fully crossed before proceeding

Slow down in school zones

Stop for crossing guards holding a stop paddle

Obey school bus signals

Follow all traffic signs and signals

Stay alert for children near or between vehicles

School Bus Loading Zones

Reserved exclusively for school buses or vehicles under contract with the school boards

Stopping or parking is strictly prohibited, even briefly

Fines escalate: \$45 → \$65 → \$85

Community Safety Zones

Designated areas near schools and other public spaces with increased safety concerns

Carry enhanced penalties for violations like speeding or careless driving

Durham Regional Police and Municipal Law Enforcement conduct active enforcement in these zones

40 km/h Areas

These residential areas are reduced from 50 km/h to 40 km/h to enhance safety.

Clearly marked signs are posted at all entrances and exits of the neighbourhood to indicate where the 40 km/h area speed limits are in effect.

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Ontario Providing Record Supports as Students Return to School

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing a record \$30.3 billion in education funding this year as part of its plan to protect Ontario and prepare students for the jobs of tomorrow. This funding for the upcoming school year will ensure schools can continue to deliver high-quality education to the two million students returning to school next week, with a back-to-basics approach that prepares them with practical skills for good-paying, stable careers. The government is also opening a record 41 new and expanded schools this fall to provide students and teachers with modern learning environments they need to succeed.

“Our goal is clear: To provide students with the opportunity to succeed and grow, and ensure teachers have the resources and environment they need to inspire learning and help students thrive,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Education. “We will continue to invest in safe, modern schools while strengthening accountability and transparency across Ontario’s education system to ensure that every dollar invested is preparing students with practical skills for good-paying, stable careers.”

Last spring, the government introduced the Supporting Children and Students Act, 2025, that, if passed, would strengthen government oversight, accountability and transparency in public school boards. This would allow the government to quickly respond to matters of public interest and make sure every dollar of this historic funding is directed to a back-to-basics approach that focuses on strengthening core skills in reading, writing and math, supporting students with special education needs and expanding access to mental health services.

The province is also opening 25 brand new schools and 16 school additions this fall, creating more than 17,700 student spaces and 1,650 licensed child care spaces to support growing communities. The new and expanded schools represent an infrastructure investment of more than \$889.1 million that is a part of the government’s \$23 billion investment to build, renew and improve schools over 10 years.

The government’s continued focus this school year is upholding public trust in Ontario’s publicly funded education system and its plan to build a strong, accountable and well-supported public education system with a back-to-basics approach that is focused on improving student outcomes.

Over the past two years, the government has committed \$1.3 billion annually to support new school buildings, school expansion and renovations across the province — the highest level of school capital funding in Ontario’s history.

Since 2018, the government has supported about 300 school-related projects including child care, of which more than 100 are actively under construction.

The government has introduced Bill 33: Supporting Children and Students Act, 2025 that, if passed, would strengthen oversight of school board finances, governance and program performance and grant the Minister of Education the authority to act swiftly in matters of public interest.

When school boards fail to meet their responsibilities, the government has not hesitated to act. Supervisors have been appointed to five school boards to address concerns related to growing deficits, depleted reserves and mismanagement.



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