

# JOPLIN



## Press Release

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**Subject:** School Zones

With the new school year beginning this Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup> the Joplin Police Department would like to remind all drivers to pay attention to the school zones and school busses. The school zones are posted near schools and along roadways with higher pedestrian flow. The goal of the lower speed in the school zone is to offer safe passage for the children by slowing vehicles which allows increased reaction times for the drivers. The school zone times vary depending on the start and end time of the school day at that particular school. Some school zones with pedestrian crossings are staffed with a Crossing Guard to help ensure the safety of the children. It is important to note that all City of Joplin School Zones are 20 MPH. Some of the school zones are equipped with flashing yellow lights and speed signs that change to help remind drivers of the school zone.

When school busses stop for the purpose of loading or unloading children they should have active flashing red lights and a stop arm visible to the left of the bus. When these lights are active and the stop arm is out all traffic that is not on a divided roadway is required to come to a complete stop.

The Traffic Division of the Joplin Police Department traditionally makes school zone safety a top priority. To help ensure the safety of the children walking to and from school the Police Department will focus enforcement efforts in the school zones.

You can find more information in regard to the City Ordinances such as driver responsibilities when approaching a stopped school bus and times for a specific school in your area by visiting the Joplin Police Department's Website at [www.joplinpolice.org](http://www.joplinpolice.org)