



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Government Operations
Division of Risk Management

MARVIN DODGE
Executive Director

RACHEL GEORGE TERRY
Division Director

Re: Bus Drop-Off/Pickup Zones

Dear K-12 LEA Administrators, Directors, Transportation and Risk Managers,

State Risk Management is very concerned about the safety of students, staff, drivers, and pedestrians and the high number of bus accidents at schools. There have been a lot of accidents lately within or near school parking lots. We strongly urge you to take immediate action to reduce these accidents, including (1) creating separate bus drop-off and pick-up areas away from parking and traffic areas around schools; and (2) having adequate signage to notify drivers of the separate bus areas.

Per, and in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the Utah Department of Transportation must establish rules to identify school bus parking zones using uniform signage or markings after consulting with local highway authorities and school boards. This may include input from school traffic safety committees established under Utah Code 53G-4-402.

As a reminder, it is illegal to park, stop, or stand a vehicle other than a school bus, whether occupied or not, in a school bus parking zone and violations are punishable by a minimum fine of \$75. It is vital that each LEA prioritizes safety, works with its transportation director, and follows these guidelines to create a safer environment for everyone. Busier schools may require personnel to supervise and direct traffic until drivers become more aware of the "bus-only" zones. This may also be required more frequently at the beginning of each new school year. Distribution of maps of the correct vehicular and bus traffic areas to parents and guardians would also be beneficial.

Risk Management can be a resource to you as you develop safety policies. For answers to questions or additional resources, please contact our Loss Control Manager, Ron Boshard, at ronboshard@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel G. Terry".

Rachel George Terry