

## Office of Traffic Safety

### Mission

To prevent traffic deaths and serious injuries by changing human behavior in Minnesota through policy development and support, stakeholder engagement, program delivery, leadership, and research and evaluation.



Rahya Geisler  
School Bus Camera Grant Coordinator  
March 2023

2022-2023 SBSC



# School Bus Stop Arm Camera Grant Project

Rahya Geisler – OTS  
Lt. Brian Reu - MSP

## 2022-2023 SBSC



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## School Bus Stop Arm Camera Grant

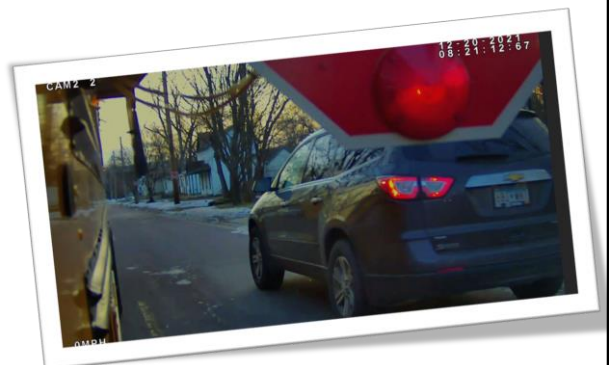


The **Purpose** of this grant is to help keep school children safe in our communities and to hold drivers accountable for their dangerous driving behaviors.

The **Goal** is to reduce the number of stop arm violations around the state to keep our children safe.

The **Outcomes** we are seeing already: the number of violations are on the **RISE**.

The **Outcomes** we hope to see: changing drivers dangerous driving behaviors and choices. The number of violations will **DECREASE** significantly in the coming years.



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## Edina



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## School Bus Stop Arm Camera Grant



- 2021 Legislative Session approximately \$14.7 Million appropriated to DPS-OTS to support a School Bus Stop Arm Camera Grant Program
- 6 grant application phases in progress or complete as of today
- 155 grants will be awarded utilizing approximately \$14 million of the appropriated funds
- 57% of grantees are Schools – 43% Bus Companies
- Nearly 7,000 buses will be equipped with camera systems when this grant project ends. This figure represents approximately 59% of the eligible bus fleet.

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## Grant Requirements

- Work with LE to do reporting of violations

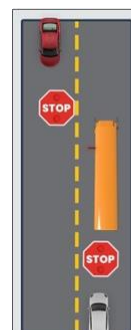
Connecting and partnering with Law Enforcement for ongoing reporting during and after the grant period is over

- Community Education and Awareness

Provide ongoing community awareness via media, social media, schools, driver trainings, etc. to grants in their communities

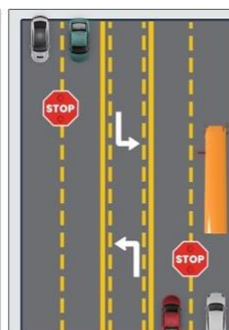
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## Examples of graphics used in school newsletter – New Prague



### TWO-LANE:

Vehicles traveling in both directions **MUST** stop.



### MULTI-LANE PAVED ACROSS:

Vehicles traveling in both directions **MUST** stop.



### DIVIDED HIGHWAY:

[Unpaved space (ditch, etc.) OR any raised median or physical barrier.]  
Vehicles behind bus **MUST** stop.  
Vehicles traveling in the opposite direction proceed with caution.

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Example of news article – Duluth News Tribune

If you aren't stopping for these flashing lights... Then you'll be stopping for these flashing lights!



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School Bus Stop Arm Camera Grant



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# Law Enforcement Perspective

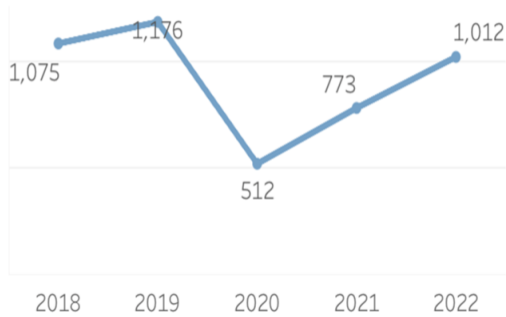
Lt. Brian Reu – Minnesota State Patrol

Local Law Enforcement –

## School Bus Stop Arm Violations



Charges Filed by Year (click year to filter data, CTRL+click to multi-select)



Year	Number of School Bus Drivers	Number of Violations Observed in One Day
2022	4,359	1,003 23% of drivers
2019	2,376	625 26%
2018	2,802	583 20%
2017	3,659	700 19%
2016	2,823	529 20%
2015	3,570	613 17%

## Horribly CLOSE!



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## Future Plans – Stop Arm Camera Project

Programs for the future of the School Bus Stop Arm Camera Project:

- Equip the rest of the Pupil Buses in Minnesota
- Media Campaign around School Bus Safety
- Courts/ Prosecution funding – staff salaries to process citations
- Law Enforcement funding – staff salaries to process citations
- Drivers Ed – Education and Awareness Campaigns
- Schools and Communities Awareness Campaigns



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THANK YOU



Special Thank you to  
Ottetail Coaches for bringing  
the bus here!

Check it out on break!



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