



Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, Oregon 97365

NPD MEDIA RELEASE

08/18/2010 9:00 a.m.

Incident: School Zones

With the arrival of the 2010 school year on September 7 comes the influx of pedestrians, children, and vehicles around our schools. Question frequently asked are: What is the speed limit in a school zone? What defines a school zone?

Oregon Revised Statute defines a school zone as a specific segment of highway that is adjacent to school grounds, or a cross-walk that is not adjacent to school grounds but is marked by signs that include any words, symbols, or combination of words and symbols indicating a school.

The speed limits in a school zone are controlled by the signs posted in the designated school zones. In Oregon, drivers are faced with different school zone signs that control the speed at which motorists travel. While the signs may vary, the speed limit in a designated school zone is 20 miles per hour (MPH). The times that determine the 20 MPH vary by area, and are indicated by the following signs:

20 MPH When Children Are Present. This applies at any time when children are present on any day when children are in a place where they are, or can reasonably be expected to be, visible to a person operating a motor vehicle that is passing a school ground or a school cross-walk.

20 MPH When Lights are Flashing. This applies only when the yellow lights on the speed signs are flashing. At all other times the speed limit is posted.

20 MPH At All Times. This applies 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The Newport Police Department wants the public to know that safety is important to all of us. They are asking that you help in making this back to school season safe for all our kids. Please slow down while driving around our school and residential areas. Be patient if you are dropping kids off at the schools because these first few days can be confusing and hectic.

Information Released By: Lt. Dave Teem, 541-574-3348

