

Transportation Safety-Kaden's Law

You might think it would be difficult to miss the flashing amber and red 8-way flashers on the bulkhead of our buses front and back as well as the red flashing lights on our two bus-mounted stop signs. Unfortunately, this is a common occurrence.

The purpose of the law is to protect our students. The fine is issued only after the dangerous action is over and is used as a deterrent in the future.

Under the bill, Senate File 2218”

First Offense: Classified as a simple misdemeanor carrying a fine between \$345 and \$930, up to 30 days in jail, and a 30-day driver's license suspension.

A **second offense** within five years is a serious misdemeanor, with fines ranging from \$315 to \$1,875 and a jail term up to a year.

SCC will have both interior and exterior cameras mounted in most of our buses. This has been a very valuable tool in identifying the vehicles involved in the situation. Every year we hear about young children getting killed or injured in situations involving school transportation. Most schools, including SCC, design our bus routes to minimize the risk for our students, but we need your help.

Keep in mind that **it is illegal and dangerous to pass a school bus from either direction while the red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended.** You must slow to 20 mph or less and be prepared to stop a minimum of 15 feet away from the bus when approaching from the front when the amber warning lights are flashing. The only time these lights are going to be used is when children are coming to or going away from the bus at their designated stops so please stay clear until all children have left the area.

For a complete set of details, please go to the Code of Iowa (Iowa Code section 321.372) at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/321.372.pdf>.