

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed August 31, 2018

### **Be a textbook driver and keep school zones safe!**

*Drivers reminded to obey school zone speed limits as kids head back to school*

#### **Summary**

Hurray, it's back-to-school time! The City of Nanaimo is reminding drivers to slow down, respect the speed limits and be prepared to stop for buses and children. Parents are also encouraged to speak to their children about road safety.

Drivers should be aware that the school year means more children out and about in the community. Staying alert and slowing down, especially around schools, is the best way to make sure children get where they're going safely.

When driving children to school, parents are encouraged to park and walk the last few blocks. This gives kids a chance to get some fresh air and physical activity before the school day begins. And, more families walking means fewer cars and safer roads in school zones.

For more information and tips to keep roads safe for everyone, please visit ICBC's website at [www.icbc.com/road-safety](http://www.icbc.com/road-safety).

*Strategic Link: Community Wellness & Public Safety*

#### **Key Points**

- Every school day, unless otherwise posted, a 30 km/h speed limit is in effect in school zones from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
- School is back in session beginning Tuesday, September 4, 2018 meaning school zone speed limits will be in effect.

#### **Quotes**

"A great way to be a part of the solution in decreasing traffic congestion around schools is to walk, bike, take transit, or use the drive-to-five method. Let's encourage our youth to build healthy habits this September and show our support by slowing down and sharing the road with them."

Annalisa Fipke, P.Eng.  
Transportation Planning  
City of Nanaimo

Continued... Be a textbook driver and keep school zones safe!

## Quick Facts

- Kids who are active before school have an easier time concentrating throughout the day. Walking or biking is a great way to take advantage of the last days of summer, and build healthy habits for the coming school year.
- Reduced Speed School Zones only exist around elementary schools, but drivers should remain alert and be prepared to stop at all times.
- When entering a School Zone that is a Reduced Speed Zone (30 km/h), you must be travelling at a speed of 30 km/h by the time you pass the posted signs. Only once you have exited the school zone can you increase your travelling speed.
- There are over 30 schools in the Nanaimo Area.

-30-

### Contact:

Annalisa Fipke, P.Eng.  
Transportation Planning  
City of Nanaimo  
250-754-4251



View the online edition for more information -  
<https://cnan.ca/2NG6pyc>