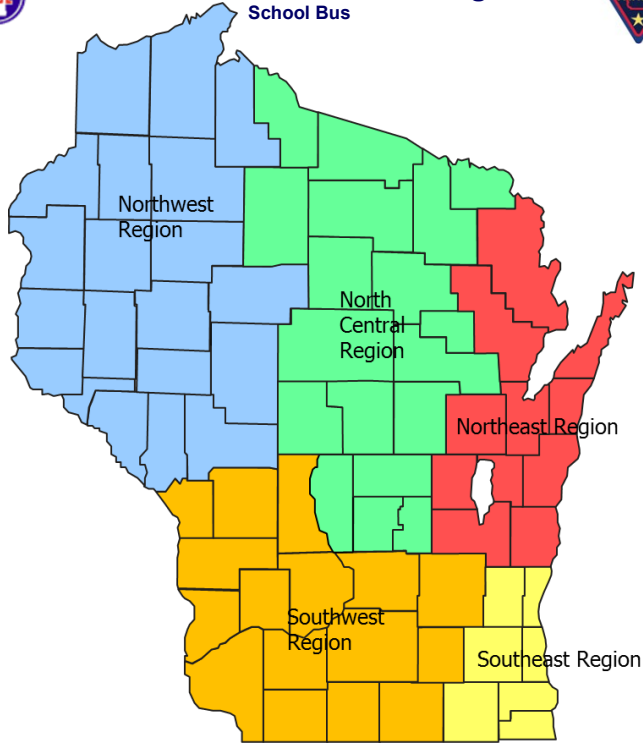




WISCONSIN STATE PATROL
Motor Carrier Enforcement Regions

School Bus



Northwest Region
Spooner

W7102 Green Valley
 Sgt. Timothy Weiberg
 715-635-2141

Northwest Region
Eau Claire

5005 Highway 53 S
 Sgt. William J. Berger
 715-839-3809

North Central Region
Wausau

2805 Martin
 Sgt. Robert Hartson
 715-845-4599

Southwest Region
DeForest

911 West North
 Sgt. Anne Maxson
 608-846-8500
 Sgt. Brad Ocain
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Southwest Region
Tomah

23928 Lester McMullin
 Sgt. Nicolas Betts
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Northeast Region
Fond du Lac

851 S. Rolling Meadows
 Sgt. Daniel Diedrich
 920-929-3700
 Sgt. Timothy Austin
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Southeast Region
Waukesha

21115 E. Moreland
 Sgt. Michele Martino
 262-857-7511
 Sgt. Gaetano Martino
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CHAPTER TRANS 300

*TRANSPORTATION OF
 SCHOOL CHILDREN*

*8-LIGHT WARNING
 IMPLEMENTATION*



-EFFECTIVE 8/16/16-

Definition of a school bus



In Wisconsin—

A school bus is a motor vehicle which carries 10 or more passengers in addition to the operator, or a motor vehicle painted with legally required school bus markings, glossy school bus yellow trimmed in black, for the purpose of transporting:

- Pupils to or from a public school or a private school or pupils to or from a technical college when required.
- Pupils to or from curricular or extracurricular activities.
- Pupils to or from religious instruction on days when school is in session.
- Children with disabilities to or from an educational program approved by the department of public instruction.

Vehicles to stop for school bus displaying flashing lights



A vehicle that approaches a school bus that is displaying flashing red or amber warning lights, must:

AMBER WARNING LIGHTS

- Cautionary message that the bus will be coming to a stop and will be activating its RED warning lights. Traffic is allowed to bypass the school bus with caution.

RED WARNING LIGHTS

- Stop not less than 20 feet from the bus and remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or the operator extinguishes the flashing red warning lights.

Failure to do will result in a minimum of a \$326.50 fine and 4 points. This law does not apply to vehicles driving in the opposite direction on a divided highway but does apply if no barrier is present on multi-lane street or highway.

NOTE—A vehicle that approaches a stopped school bus that is displaying flashing red warning lights must stop, regardless if the stop arm is out or not (Ss. 346.48(1)).

School bus operator requirements



School bus equipped with only RED warning lights manufactured prior to 01/01/05 as specified in s.347.25 (2):

- The operator shall actuate the lights at least 100 feet before stopping to load or unload pupils or other authorized passengers, and shall not extinguish the lights until loading or unloading is completed and persons who must cross the highway are safely across.

School bus equipped with flashing RED and AMBER warning lights manufactured on or after 01/01/05 as specified in s.347.25 (2):

- The operator shall actuate the flashing amber warning lights at least 300 feet before stopping in a 45 mile per hour or greater speed zone or at least 100 feet before stopping in a less than 45 mile per hour speed zone

School bus operators USE of flashing WARNING lights:

- a. At the point of loading or unloading, the operator, while bringing the bus to a stop, extinguish the flashing amber warning lights (not applicable to red light equipped bus only), and actuate the flashing red warning lights.
- b. After loading or unloading is completed and persons who must cross the highway are safely across, extinguish the flashing red warning lights
- c. Where the curb and sidewalk are laid on one side of the road only, the operator shall use the flashing red or flashing red and amber warning lights when loading or unloading passengers from either side

School bus operators SHALL NOT USE the flashing RED or AMBER WARNING lights in:

- Special school bus loading areas where the bus is entirely off the traveled portion of the highway
- Residence or business districts when pupils or other authorized passengers are to be loaded or unloaded where a sidewalk and curb are load on both sides of the road, UNLESS required otherwise by municipal ordinance enacted under s. 349.21(1).

**Key to coloring: Division of State Patrol (DSP) Comment Notes
In Far Right Column.**

1) Required: Which may include effective date associated with rule change

**2) Optional Only-Several of these are already in school buses and allowed by DSP
through informational memorandums**

3) Clarifying language only

TEXT OF PERMANENT RULE

SECTION 1. Trans 300.02 (7r) is created to read:

Trans 300.02 (7r) “Lights” or “lamps” mean devices that emit light, either to illuminate roads, license plates and similar items, or to warn motorists and the public of the presence of a school bus and the need for due care. In this chapter, both terms have the same meaning and may be used interchangeably.

SECTION 2. Trans 300.15 (2) (d) is amended to read:

Trans 300.15 (2) (d) The initial pre-sale inspection and a copy of the latest inspection performed by state employees.

SECTION 3. Trans 300.15 (4) is repealed and recreated to read:

Trans 300.15 (4) A driver’s report indicating a school bus defect or unsafe condition, in either written or electronic form, shall be maintained for a period of 7 calendar days after repair.

SECTION 4. Trans 300.16 (1) is amended to read:

Trans 300.16 (1) Prior to the start of any trip, the driver, or employer designee, shall check the condition of the bus, giving particular attention to brakes, tires, lights, emergency equipment, mirrors, windows, and interior cleanliness of the bus. Defects shall be reported in writing, or electronic file, to the person in charge of bus maintenance by completing a pre-trip report. In addition to completing a pre-trip report when a defect or unsafe condition is found, an inspection log indicating the date, time, and identification of who completed the inspection must be completed prior to the start of any trip. It is the driver’s responsibility to ensure that the pre-trip inspection has been completed prior to the start of any trip. The driver shall be responsible for the cleanliness of the interior of the bus and shall ensure that the windshield and mirrors are clean before each school bus operation and that the strobe light is actuated whenever the bus is in operation on a highway for purposes specified in s. 340.01(56) (a) and (am), Stats.

Comment [KLM1]: Clarifying language to include the pre-sale language.

Comment [KLM2]: Option Only. Allows electronic form. Effective on date of Final Rule: May 1, 2016.

Comment [KLM3]: Option only. Allows Employer Designee to do a pre-trip inspection. Before it had to be the driver. Effective on date of Final Rule: May 1, 2016.

Comment [KLM4]: Option only. Allows an electronic file. Effective on date of Final Rule: May 1, 2016.

Comment [KLM5]: QUESTION 1: Where is this inspection log to be kept? ANSWER 1: In the bus. It can also be kept on an electronic device in the bus. To meet this requirement it can be as simple as a small notebook kept in the bus. When the pre-trip is done, the individual who did the inspection signs off. QUESTION 2: How long must we retain this inspection log? ANSWER 2: It must only be kept in the bus for the duration of the trip the pre-trip was done for. QUESTION 3: What is the purpose of keeping this inspection log? ANSWER 3: To recognize the individual who conducted the pre-trip inspection when in some instances may not be the actual driver. This was a request from industry to allow maintenance personnel to conduct the pre-trip inspections. In case an equipment issue is found on the bus, the maintenance personnel could fix it before the driver’s arrival. When the driver arrived, they could simply check the log to verify the pre-trip had been done. Before this change, the driver had to do the pre-trip inspection. QUESTION 4: What agency is going to be conducting ENFORCEMENT ACTION upon this new Inspection Log. ANSWER 4: Whoever makes the request if a pre-trip was actually conducted. This will most likely be during a spot check inspection on a roadside stop of a school bus. Effective on date of Final Rule: May 1, 2016.

SECTION 5. Trans 300.16 (8) is amended to read:

Trans 300.16 (8) Loading stations or points shall be selected with due regard for traffic and pedestrian safety and shall be approved by school authorities. ~~When flashing red~~ Flashing warning lights are shall be used as required by s. 346.48(2), Stats. ~~they shall be actuated continuously at least 100 feet before stopping.~~ The stop arm shall be used in conjunction with the flashing red warning lights and shall be extended only after the bus comes to a stop. Except where there are special loading zones where the bus is entirely off the traveled portion of the highway, the bus shall be stopped on the traveled portion of the highway in the lane farthest to the right which is improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, excluding the berm or shoulder. The flashing red warning lights may not be extinguished until loading or unloading is completed and persons who must cross the highway are safely across. The stop arm shall be retracted before putting the bus in motion.

Comment [KLM6]: Clarifying language only. Needed to be removed. New Language in Ss. 346 which covers warning light activation. Amber activation 300 feet 45 mph zone, 100 feet less than 45 mph zone. Effective on date of Final Rule inclusion of amber/red lights: August 16, 2016

SECTION 6. Trans 300.16 (9) is amended to read:

Trans 300.16 (9) A school bus may not be stopped on any portion of a highway for the loading or discharge of pupils or other persons unless the bus is painted the yellow and black school bus color combination, is equipped with a stop signal arm and alternating flashing red or flashing red and amber lights and is identified by a school bus sign. This subsection does not apply to a vehicle which is operating within a municipality and which is not readily identifiable as a school bus. When loading or discharging pupils in a rural area, a vehicle not identifiable as a school bus shall do so off the highway and in such a manner that the pupils do not have to cross the highway.

Comment [KLM7]: Clarifying language only.

SECTION 7. Trans 300.16 (10) is amended to read:

Trans 300.16 (10) The driver shall make sure that there is no traffic danger before allowing pupils to cross the highway. Pupils obliged to cross the highway shall be required to cross from a point at least 10 feet forward of the standing bus only after receiving a signal from the driver. When discharging passengers the driver may not proceed until all persons are at a safe distance away from the bus or, if crossing the roadways, they are safely across the street or highway. This subsection applies only where alternating flashing red signals or flashing red and amber lights are required by s. 346.48, Stats., or authorized by s. 349.21, Stats.

Comment [KLM8]: Clarifying language only.

SECTION 8. Trans 300.30 (1) is amended to read:

Trans 300.30 (1) Book racks, if installed, shall be located above the side windows. They may not extend forward of the foremost point of the front seat or across or above the rear emergency door.

Comment [KLM9]: Clarifying language only. Book racks are not allowed above the REAR emergency door.

SECTION 9. Trans 300.34 (1) is amended to read:

Trans 300.34 (1) All school buses shall be painted national school bus glossy yellow with the exception of the trim, grill, roof, wheels and the bumpers. Grills and wheels may be chrome, black, yellow, silver, white or gray. Engine hood tops may be painted matte black or lusterless yellow for glare reduction.

Comment [KLM10]: Option only, request from Industry. White roofs now allowed. See section 14 for installation requirements. Effective immediately.

SECTION 10. Trans 300.34 (3) (intro.) is amended to read:

Trans 300.34 (3) ~~The following are designated as trim and~~ Stop arms shall be painted black.

Comment [KLM11]: Clarifying language. Stop arm in this section refers to the BRACKET that holds the "Stop Sign."

SECTION 11. Trans 300.34 (3)(a) and (b) are repealed.

SECTION 12. Trans 300.34 (3m) is created to read:

Trans 300.34 (3m) Rub rails shall have a 2 inch minimum black color down their center, by either painting or application of a high quality blackout film, paint film, or retro-reflective tape. The remainder of each rub rail shall be either black or national school bus glossy yellow.

Comment [KLM12]: Option only, rub rails still need to be black but this gives some variance to the current version of TR300. This was asked by Industry for coloring options to rub rails. It states rub rails shall have at least a 2" minimum black color down their center. With the option of painting or application of high quality blackout film, paint film, or retro-reflective tape. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 13. Trans 300.34 (4) (f) is amended to read:

Trans 300.34 (4) (f) Lamp flanges, housings, and an area around the tail, ~~lamps on combination stop, turn, and turn back up~~ lamps not to exceed 3 inches. Areas adjacent to rub rails may exceed 3 inches to the extent of the width of the rub rail.

Comment [KLM13]: Clarification only. Includes back up lamps. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 14. Trans 300.34 (8), (9) and (10) are created to read:

Trans 300.34 (8) An external camera, audio monitor or recording device housing shall be either national school bus glossy yellow, black, gray, or white.

Comment [KLM14]: Option only, request from Industry. Deals with camera coloring. **Effective immediately.**

Trans 300.34 (9) Sensors used for anti-theft or pre-trip inspections shall be either national school bus glossy yellow, black, gray, or white

Comment [KLM15]: Option only, request from Industry. Deals with sensor coloring. **Effective immediately.**

Trans 300.34 (10) The roof of a school bus may be painted white. The front and rear roof caps shall be painted school bus glossy yellow or black. The white roof may not extend below the side windows, or if equipped, the drip rail.

Comment [KLM16]: White roof requirement, how to install.

SECTION 15. Trans 300.39 (9) is amended to read:

Trans 300.39 (9) The inside of each emergency window shall have the designation "Emergency Exit". An emergency door shall be identified with either the words "Emergency Exit" or "Emergency Door" on the inside at the top of, or above the door. Directly beneath or above each "Emergency Door" or "Emergency Exit" designation specified by this section a label shall state in letters at least one inch high, "DO NOT BLOCK" in a color that contrasts with the background of the label. Concise operating instructions shall be located within 6 inches of the release mechanism. When a release mechanism is not located within an occupant space of an adjacent seat, a label that indicates the location of the nearest mechanism shall be placed within that occupant space. The outside of the emergency door shall be clearly marked "Emergency Door" or "Emergency Exit" in letters 2 inches high at the top of, or above the door or immediately below the upper glass. An arrow at least 6 inches long and 3/4 inch in width indicating the direction the release mechanism should be turned to open the door shall be painted

Comment [KLM17]: Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 571.217 has required the "Do Not Block" marking since 08/12/2005. (We adopt FMVSS 571.217 through TR300.39) FMVSS 571.217 requires the Do Not Block marking in a school bus which has one or more wheelchair anchorage positions. School Buses equipped with a wheel chair position must maintain the "Do Not Block" marking if manufactured on or after 8/12/2005. All school buses manufactured on and after the effective date of this rule change will be required to mark all emergency exits with the "Do Not Block" marking. Body manufactures are already marking all emergency exits with the "Do Not Block" marking even without a wheel chair position in the bus. They have been doing this for almost a decade.

If a school bus is manufactured on or after 8/12/2005 to 05/01/2016, which does not have a wheel chair position, and has the "Do Not Block" markings missing, it will not be a violation. After 05/01/2016 a non-wheel chair equipped bus will require the "Do Not Block" marking.

in black on the yellow background. The outside of the emergency window shall be labeled “Emergency Exit” in letters at least 2 inches high, directly above the window or on the window glazing. There may not be any labeling on the glazing indicating emergency door. Labeling or operating instructions may be located on the glazing of emergency window exits as long as the labeling or instructions are clearly visible inside and outside the vehicle.

SECTION 16. Trans 300.40 (1) is amended to read:

Trans 300.40 (1) The exhaust system, which includes the exhaust manifolds, joining gaskets, piping leading from the exhaust manifold, muffler and tail pipe may not enter the bus body at any location. The exhaust system pipes shall be of nonflexible steel except that those buses which utilize a diesel engine may be equipped with a flexible pipe of not more than 18 inches long between the engine and the first exhaust pipe hanger. Stainless steel bellows assemblies are allowed. School buses with 2007 EPA or newer diesel engines, subject to emissions standards in 40 CFR 86.007-11, may have flexible tubing at original manufactured locations and if replaced must meet or exceed manufacturer specifications.

Comment [KLM18]: Added to include options for 2007 EPA or newer diesel engines. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 17. Trans 300.40 (1m) is created to read:

Trans 300.40 (1m) School buses equipped with an EPA 2007 or newer diesel engine, which is subject to emissions standards in 40 CFR 86.007-11, shall maintain or exceed original specifications equipped by the manufacturer and shall discharge exhaust to the rear or left side of the school bus.

Comment [KLM19]: EPA 2007 or newer buses will not be allowed to have an exhaust discharge out the right side of the bus. **Effective on the date of Final Rule (May 1, 2016.)**

SECTION 18. Trans 300.40 (3) is amended to read:

Trans 300.40 (3) An exhaust system, that ~~has is not an EPA 2007 or newer diesel engine,~~ subject to emissions standards in 40 CFR 86.007-11, may discharge out of ~~its exit on the right side~~ shall have the exit point if located behind the rear wheels.

Comment [KLM20]: If a bus is not an EPA 2007 or newer, the exhaust will be able to discharge out the right side.

SECTION 19. Trans 300.54 (1) (intro.) is amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (intro.) The following lights, lamps, and reflectors are required on a school bus ~~printed in accordance with s. 347.44(1), Stats.~~ Each lamp shall be operational and meet the applicable SAE specifications as provided in this section.

Comment [KLM21]: Clarifying language only. Added to section 20 below.

SECTION 20. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) (intro.) is amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) (intro.) ~~The~~ A school bus painted in accordance with s. 347.44(1) Stats., shall be equipped with alternating red flashing lamps lights which conform to the following requirements.

Comment [KLM22]: Clarifying language only reference amber light conversion.

SECTION 21. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 1. d. is created to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 1. d. A school bus shall be equipped with warning signal lights mounted at the same level as high and widely spaced laterally as practicable. The warning signal lights shall be mounted at the front above the windshield and at the rear so that the lower edge of the lens is not lower than the top line of the side window openings. These lights must be capable of displaying to the front 2, and to the rear 2, overhead alternately flashing red lights.

Comment [KLM23]: Clarifying language for red lamp installation.

SECTION 22. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 1m. is created to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 1m. On or after August 16, 2016, the following requirements shall apply to school buses:

Comment [KLM24]: EFFECTIVE DATE FOR AMBER light/lens install. As soon as TR300 becomes Final Rule (May 1, 2016) the amber lights/lenses can start to be installed on all buses a carrier is required to install on (manufactured on or after 01/01/2005) or wish to install on (manufactured prior to 01/01/2005.) The amber lights shall not be used or activated until 08/16/2016.

a. The school bus body shall be equipped with, in addition to the 4 red warning lights described in subd. 1., amber warning light shall be installed near each red warning light, at the same level, but closer to the vertical center line of the bus. The system of red and amber warning signal lights shall be wired so that the amber warning lights are activated manually, and the red warning lights are automatically activated, with the amber warning lights being automatically deactivated, when the stop signal arm is extended.

Comment [KLM25]: Where to install amber lenses and how they must operate.

b. An amber and a red flashing pilot light shall be installed in the driver's forward field of view indicating to the driver which warning light system is activated.

Comment [KLM26]: The amber flashing pilot light will only be required moving forward from the Final Rule effective date of the amber/red warning light system (August 16, 2016.) There is no reason to "retrofit" buses from 01/01/2005 to the Final Rule date with the amber flashing pilot light. As long as there is a red pilot light operational when the amber lights are flashing.

c. The amber and red warning lights shall flash alternately at a rate of 60 to 120 cycles per minute. The "on" period shall be long enough to permit bulb filament to come to full brightness. A double flash effect shall be counted as a single flash.

Comment [KLM27]: Clarifying language for amber lights flash rate. Same as what we currently have for red light flash rate.

d. The above requirements in this subdiv. do not apply to school buses whose body was manufactured before January 1, 2005.

Comment [KLM28]: If a bus has a chassis manufactured date prior to 01/01/2005 that bus will not be required to be "retrofitted" with the amber lights/lenses.

SECTION 23. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 2. is amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 2. The amber and red warning ~~lamps~~ lights shall be of seal beam construction or other approved type such as strobe or light emitting diode, not less than 5 inches in diameter or with a surface area of at least 19 square inches if not round and visible from a distance of at least 500 feet along the axis of the vehicle in bright sunlight.

Comment [KLM29]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

SECTION 24. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 4, 5, 6 and 7. are amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 4. Each amber and red warning ~~signal lamp~~ light shall be mounted with its axis substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bus.

Comment [KLM30]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 5. The front and rear amber and red warning ~~signal lamps~~ lights shall be spaced as far apart laterally as practicable, and in no case shall the spacing between lamp centers be less than 3 feet.

Comment [KLM31]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 6. The front ~~amber and red warning signal lamps~~ lights shall be located so that they can be clearly distinguished when headlamps are lighted on ~~lower low~~ beam.

Comment [KLM32]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 7. The ~~amber and red warning signal lamps~~ lights shall be mounted at the front above the windshield and at the rear so that the lower edge of the lens is not lower than the top line of the side window openings.

Comment [KLM33]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

SECTION 25. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 8. is amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 8. The front and the rear ~~signal lamps~~ warning lights shall be unobstructed by any part of the bus from 5° degrees above to 10° degrees below horizontal and from 30° degrees to the right and 30° degrees to the left of the centerline of the bus.

Comment [KLM34]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

SECTION 26. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 9., and 10. are amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 9. ~~The body immediately surrounding the area around the lens of each alternately flashing amber and red signal lamp and extending outward approximately 3 inches to the top and sides and a minimum of one inch to the bottom shall be painted black on all school buses. This subdivision does not apply to vehicles not specifically manufactured as school buses and which have red warning signal lamps mounted above the roof top. Red warning signal lamps on such buses shall be equipped with black hoods at least 3 inches long. warning light shall have a black background extending outward a minimum of 3 inches. Where this is not practicable the background shall extend as wide as possible, with a minimum of a 1 inch black background required.~~

Comment [KLM35]: This language was created to simplify the black background around red and amber lenses. The black background must be 3", if it is not practicable to obtain the 3" black background, 1" is the minimum.

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 10. ~~Except as provided in subd. 9., Amber and red warning signal lamps~~ lights may be equipped with hoods to shield from rays of sun for improved visibility.

Comment [KLM36]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

SECTION 27. Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 12. is amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (a) 12. Vehicles painted other than glossy yellow are prohibited from having the alternating ~~amber and red flashing warning~~ lights mounted on the vehicle except as otherwise provided by statute.

Comment [KLM37]: Clarifying language for amber lights. Same as what we currently have for red lights.

SECTION 28. Trans 300.54 (1) (am) (intro.) is amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (am) (intro.) Each school bus first registered on or after October 1, 1998, shall be equipped with a strobe light ~~which shall conform with~~ that conforms to the following requirements:

Comment [KLM38]: Clarifying language only.

SECTION 29. Trans 300.54 (1) (am) 1. is amended to read:

Trans 300.54 (1) (am) 1. The strobe light shall be of solid state construction. It shall emit a white light by flashing, not rotating, 360° degrees around the vertical axis.

Comment [KLM39]: Clarifying language only.

SECTION 30. Trans 300.61 (2) is amended to read:

Trans 300.61 (2) The body shall bear words "School Bus" in black letters at least 8 inches high and one-inch stroke on both front and rear or on yellow signs attached thereto. The lettering shall be placed above the rear window and the front windshield. This lettering shall only appear on buses painted the yellow and black school bus colors and meeting all the requirements of ~~ch. Trans 300~~ this chapter.

Comment [KLM40]: Clarifying language only.

SECTION 31. Trans 300.61 (7) is amended to read:

Trans 300.61 (7) The name of the ~~school or~~ school bus firm may appear on the sides of the bus between the seat line rub rail and the bottom window line in contrasting yellow or black letters not more than 10 inches high. The owner's name may also appear on the rear bumper in school bus yellow. The lettering may not exceed 6 inches in height with a ~~4 1/2~~ 1/2 inch brush stroke. These options do not relieve the owner or operator from the requirements of sub. (6).

Comment [KLM41]: Clarifying language only.

SECTION 32. Trans 300.61 (9m) is created to read:

Trans 300.61 (9m) On or after August 1, 2016, each school bus equipped with an eight light warning system shall have contrasting black lettering indicating the word "STOP" centered on the rear emergency door panel in 8 X 1 inch minimum letters with the words "ON FLASHING RED" directly below and centered in 4 1/2 X 1/2 inch minimum letters. When a rear emergency door is not present this lettering shall be placed in a visible location on the rear of the school bus body as close to the centerline as practicable. This lettering may be reflective material or have a reflective background. An optional driver alert message board may be used in lieu of the required lettering if utilizing a high intensity or LED lights that flash similar cautionary messages in two inch high minimum letters. Amber cautionary messages may flash when the hazard lights or amber warning lights are activated and a red warning message, similar to the required lettering, shall flash when the red warning lights are activated.

Comment [KLM42]: It is DSP's understanding the language in the proposed rule would accommodate the majority of the buses currently operating in WI. As the enforcement agency, we have the ability to implement a tolerance to this rule on a case-by-case basis. This rear lettering was included into this revision at the request of Industry going back to 2010. When we wrote this language, we did reach out to the school bus body manufacturers and this was the size they recommended we incorporate into the rule. We wanted to create a uniform means for applying this lettering so it was standard across the entire school bus fleet in WI. This only applies to school buses equipped with an eight light warning system. But may be applied to a school bus that is manufactured prior to 01/01/2005 which is not required to be equipped with the eight light warning system. This can start to be installed NOW. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 33. Trans 300.61 (10) (e) is amended to read:

Trans 300.61 (10) (e) ~~A~~ seating chart, ~~which shall not exceed a maximum size of 8 1/2 x 11 inches~~. Numbers designating rows may be placed above the windows on both sides. They shall be black, no taller than 2 inches. They shall be permanent and legible by either painting or decal placement. They shall not interfere with emergency door or window markings.

SECTION 34. Trans 300.61 (10) (f) is amended to read:

Trans 300.61 (10) (f) ~~Rules~~ One page of rules pertaining to passenger conduct located in the drivers compartment above the windshield on the front bulkhead, ~~which shall not exceed a maximum of 8 1/2 x 11 inches~~.

SECTION 35. Trans 300.61 (10) (gm) is repealed and recreated to read:

Trans 300.61 (10) (gm) For vehicles powered by alternative fuels such as liquefied petroleum gas, compressed natural gas or electric propulsion a designator may be placed on a



Comment [KLM43]: Optional only, request from Industry. **Effective immediately.**

Comment [KLM44]: Clarifying language only.

lower rear corner. This designator may also be on the right side and displayed below the window line in the panel to the rear of, and as close as possible to, the service door. If desired, this designator may also be displayed on the left side, below the driver's window. It may not exceed 64 square inches and shall identify the alternative fuel used. A school bus that is utilizing an alternative fuel may have the manufacturer's logo or background colored green.

Comment [KLM45]: Option only for alternative powered vehicles, request from Industry. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 36. Trans 300.61 (10) (h) is amended to read:

Trans 300.61 (10) (h) A sign or lettering indicating the type of fuel used. This may be an industry recognized symbol as the background containing the appropriate lettering or abbreviation designating the type of fuel.

Comment [KLM46]: Option only, request from Industry. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 37. Trans 300.61 (10) (k) is created to read:

Trans 300.61 (10) (k) A legal disclaimer, not to exceed 5 inches by 7 inches, may be displayed in the drivers compartment to advise passengers that they may be video or audio recorded.

Comment [KLM47]: Option only, request from industry. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 38. Trans 300.61 (10) (L) is created to read:

Trans 300.61 (10) (L) A United States flag decal or magnet, not to exceed 6 inches on any side, may be displayed in the drivers compartment provided it does not interfere with any operating controls or other safety signs and equipment. It shall not include any sayings or slogans and may not be placed on the mirror, visor, windshield or any other window.

Comment [KLM48]: Option only, request from industry. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 39. Trans 300.61 (10) (m) is created to read:

Trans 300.61 (10) (m) A decal, sticker or lettering stating, "DO NOT USE THE LAST TWO SEATS UNLESS BUS IS FULL", is permissible to be placed on the rear bulkheads. The letters are to be black and are not to exceed 2 inches high. They are to be permanent and legible by either painting or decal placement.

Comment [KLM49]: Option only, request from industry. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 40. Trans 300.81 (7) (intro.) is amended to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (intro.) ~~VIDEO CAMERAS, AUDIO MONITOR OR RECORDING DEVICE / COMPUTER ANTENNA.~~ A school bus may be equipped with a ~~video~~ camera, audio monitor or recording device, or computer antenna subject to the following conditions:

Comment [KLM50]: Option only, request from industry. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 41. Trans 300.81 (7) (a) is repealed and created to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (a) When a device is mounted in the driver's compartment it shall be located so as to not interfere with movement into and out of step well area. When a camera is placed to view through the windshield it shall not be located to the left of the centerline of the school bus. The camera shall be mounted not more than 2 inches below the upper edge of the area swept by the windshield wipers and located outside the driver's sight lines to the road, mirrors, highway signs and signals.

Comment [KLM51]: Option only, request from industry. Camera placed in windshield must follow this language. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 42. Trans 300.81 (7) (b) is amended to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (b) The ~~video-camera~~ device may not interfere with driver visibility and passenger entrance and aisle.

Comment [KLM52]: Option only, request from Industry. See above. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 43. Trans 300.81 (7) (c) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (c) A device mounted in the rear of the school bus shall not protrude more than 6 inches forward of the rear bulkhead or from the ceiling.

Comment [KLM53]: Option only, request from Industry. Rear camera placement. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 44. Trans 300.81 (7) (d) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (d) A maximum of two devices may be located near the middle of a school bus, if they do not protrude more than 4 inches and are located no more than 15 inches above the side windows that are not emergency exits, measured from the edge of the window frame directly to the device. The device or devices shall be mounted parallel to a seat back. If flush mounted, the device or devices may be located beyond the 15 inch separation from the side window.

Comment [KLM54]: Option only, request from industry. This section explains the mid ship camera locations. When measuring, measure from the top of the window direct to the camera or camera housing on the roof. Do not follow the contour of the roof line when measuring. As long as any part of the camera or camera housing is within 15 inches of the window it will be allowed. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 45. Trans 300.81 (7) (e) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (e) All devices shall be securely fastened and contained within a shatterproof housing. All exposed edges or sharp corners shall be protected or designed to prevent injury upon contact.

Comment [KLM55]: Option only. Clarifies items associated with camera system must be constructed.

SECTION 46. Trans 300.81 (7) (f) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (f) External devices shall be contained within a shatterproof housing.

Comment [KLM56]: Option only, request from Industry. Clarifies items associated with camera system must be constructed.

SECTION 47. Trans 300.81 (7) (g) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (7) (g) A video display, if utilized, shall be mounted in the driver's compartment and within or in close proximity to the forward field of view of the driver. It shall not restrict visibility of the driver's sight lines to the road, mirrors, highway signs and signals, or affect operation of the school bus controls. The video display may be incorporated as part of the interior rear view mirror and display an image when the parking brake is applied, warning lamps are activated, or transmission is in reverse.

Comment [KLM57]: Option only, request from Industry.

SECTION 48. Trans 300.81 (9) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (9) AIRFOIL. A school bus may be equipped with an airfoil designed to reduce the accumulation of snow on the rear of the bus.

Comment [KLM58]: Option only, request from Industry. Allows airfoil installation. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 49. Trans 300.81 (10) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (10) PASSENGER ADVISORY OR THEFT SYSTEM. A school bus may be equipped with a passenger advisory / theft system as long as the system does not interfere with operation or identification of other school bus standards set forth in this rule.

Comment [KLM59]: Option only, request from Industry. Allows passenger advisory or theft system installation. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 50. Trans 300.81 (11) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (11) NAVIGATIONAL DEVICE OR LAPTOP COMPUTER INSTALL. A school bus may be equipped with a navigational device that meets the following requirements:

(a) The device is mounted within the driver's compartment.

(b) The device shall be mounted in a position where it does not obscure the driver's sight lines to the road, mirrors, highway signs and signals and it may not impede space within the aisle.

(c) The device shall be securely mounted.

(d) The display shall activate for navigational purposes only while the school bus is in motion. Distractive manipulation of the device is prohibited while the school bus is being driven. For the purposes of this section only, driven means operating a commercial motor vehicle, with the motor running, including while temporarily stationary because of traffic, a traffic control device, or other momentary delays such as picking up or discharging students. Driven does not include operating a school bus, with or without the motor running, when the school bus is legally stopped or parked upon the highway.

(e) Software programs, if utilized, shall be specific to school bus operations such as, but not limited to, passenger accountability, routing, navigation, emergency notification, tracking, messaging and equipment monitoring.

(f) The device shall be used with due regard to passenger safety. At no time shall operation of this device cause a distraction while operating the school bus.

Comment [KLM60]: Option only, request from Industry. Allows for installation of NAVIGATIONAL DEVICE OR LAPTOP COMPUTER INSTALL. If installed must follow this guidelines describe in this section. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 51. Trans 300.81 (12) is created to read:

Trans 300.81 (12) ADDITIONAL DRIVER OR PASSENGER SAFETY ITEMS. A school bus may be equipped with additional safety items such as a seat belt cutter with recessed razor blade, hand sanitizer, and automated external defibrillator or AED. These items shall be kept in the driver's compartment. Additional items may be authorized upon written approval of the Division of State Patrol.

Comment [KLM61]: Option only, request from Industry. Allows several items to be carried in a school. If carried, they must be in the drivers compartment. **Effective immediately.**

SECTION 52. EFFECTIVE DATE. This rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

Comment [KLM62]: May 1, 2016 is the expected Final Rule date.