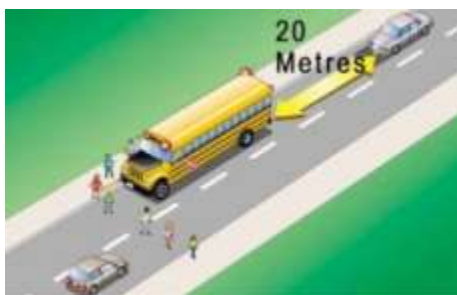




The Gananoque Police Service has received several complaints of vehicles failing to stop for local school buses which have their flashing lights activated and children boarding the bus. We would like to remind drivers to remain vigilant when on the roads during the morning and afternoon hours.

When driving on a road **WITHOUT** a median:

- drivers travelling in both directions must stop for a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing
- when you approach the bus from the front, stop at a safe distance to let children get on or off the bus and cross the road
- when approaching from the rear, drivers should maintain an approximate 20 metre space
- do not move forward until the red lights have stopped flashing or the bus begins to move



Drivers can be charged if they pass a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing:

- First offence: **\$400 to \$2,000 and six demerit points.**
- Each following offence: **\$1,000 to \$4,000, six demerit points and possible jail time** (up to six months)

Vehicle owners can also be charged if their vehicle illegally passes a stopped school bus, even if they weren't driving. If the vehicle owner does not pay the fine, they will not be able to renew the vehicle's permit.