Bus Patrol:

Hello Lower Gwynedd Residents,

The Lower Gwynedd Township Police Department has partnered with the Wissahickon School District and Bus Patrol to enhance school bus safety. As of September 30, 2024, all district buses are equipped with 360° safety cameras to monitor and deter illegal passing of stopped school buses.

Since we started the program, the most frequent violation involves drivers failing to stop for buses on undivided four lane highways. Use of phones, navigation systems, or other in-vehicle distractions can cause drivers to miss a bus's flashing lights or extended stop arm.

Drivers must realize they are required to stop on undivided multi-lane roads/highways. Unless there is a physical barrier separating them from the stopped school bus with red lights flashing, they are required to stop.

What do I do when I see a stopped school bus in Pennsylvania?   As per PA Vehicle Code § 3345:

- The driver of a vehicle meeting or overtaking any school bus stopped on a highway or trafficway shall stop at least ten feet before reaching the school bus when the red signal lights on the school bus are flashing and the side stop signal arms are activated.
- The driver shall not proceed until the flashing red signal lights are no longer actuated.  In no event shall a driver of a vehicle resume motion of the vehicle until the school children who may have alighted from the school bus have reached a place of safety.
- The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection at which a school bus is stopped shall stop his vehicle at that intersection until the flashing red signal lights are no longer actuated.
- The driver of a vehicle upon a highway or trafficway with separate roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus with actuated red signal lights which is on a different roadway.

For more information, please follow these links.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HU5F9XX6e3c

https://www.dot.state.pa.us/Public/DVSPubsForms/BDL/BDL%20Publications/Pub%2097.pdf

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FoCkg8jmzQ8