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Pay attention to those flashing lights in school zones in Burleson – students are back in school Tuesday, Aug. 26.

The City of Burleson maintains more than a dozen school zone flashers. The Texas Department of Transportation maintains the flashing school zone lights on FM 1902, East Renfro Street and Wilshire Boulevard.

The City is testing the flashing lights beginning Aug. 21. Hours for elementary school zones are 7 a.m.-8 a.m. and 2:40 p.m.-3:40 p.m. Hours for the middle schools are 7:45 a.m.-8:45 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m. And hours for the high schools' school zones are 8 a.m.-9 a.m. and 4 p.m.-5 p.m.

“Remember when schools zones are active, children are active and they don't stop to see if it's clear before they dart across the street,” Burleson Traffic Sgt. B. O'Heren said. “This is especially relevant around elementary and middle schools. Your speed and awareness will be the driving difference whether you strike a child or not!

School zones exist on South Dobson Street at East Renfro, South Dobson at East Miller Street, East Ellison at South Commerce, East Ellison at South Lawson, Southwest Johnson at Southeast Harris, Southwest Johnson at Southeast Gregory, Northeast Alsbury at Northwest James, Northeast Alsbury at Spring Meadow, Elk at Wilshire Boulevard, Elk at Southwest Hillside, Hillside at Emily Court, Northwest Summercrest at West Bend, Northwest Summercrest at Cedar Ridge, Northeast McAlister at Northwest Park Meadow, Northeast McAlister at Rolling Meadows, South Hurst at Evandale, South Hurst at Hidden Creek Parkway, Southeast Gardens at Pleasant Manor, and Southeast Gardens at Deborah.

Remember, if you don't have a hands-free device you can't use your cell phone while driving through an active school zone in Burleson. This change has been in effect since 2009. It is illegal to use a wireless communication device in a school zone unless the vehicle is stopped or a hands-free device is used. “Use of a wireless communication device” includes texting, reading or answering e-mails, and any and all other functions of a cellular telephone. Violating this law is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$200.

Drivers, regardless of which direction you are approaching the school bus on a highway (and students are getting on or off the bus), must stop before reaching the school bus when the bus is operating a visual signal. Drivers may not proceed until the school bus resumes driving; the bus driver signals other drivers to proceed or the visual signal is no longer activated.