Red Light Violators & Camera Systems

Background

The driver's primary focus when picking up and dropping off is the safety of the child(ren). Training the driver and students to watch the driver and listen for instructions is vital to everyone's safety.

Procedures for loading/unloading students involve 6 strict rules (checking traffic, counting students, making eye contact, identifying the POS and rechecking traffic) and 4 direct lines of instruction to the students.

Properly training the child(ren) to watch the driver, remain in their place of safety and checking traffic when crossing are our best tools to ensure their safety

Even with upgrading to 8-Way flashers and Fully Illuminated & Reflective Stop Arm, we still have people who do not pay attention and run through our student stops.

Stats

We make approximately 3,091 stops a week where we load or unload students to the right or left (across) of the bus. That's about 105,094 total bus stops for the year. We have reported 29 Red Light Violations this year to date. In the 34 weeks of school we have been in session (8/18/22-5/5/23 with 4 weeks off for Holidays and PD). The percent of Red Light Violations to stops is **0.028% But 1 is too many!**

Out of the 29 Red Light Violations:

> 6 were sent to Bellbrook PD, 4 resulted in citations

> 23 were sent to Sugarcreek PD, 20 resulted in citations

We have ~ 1 red light runner a week that we cannot submit because information is missing (license plate, driver characteristics etc.)

We see common areas where violations occurs. (Franklin St., Wilmington-Dayton, ST. RT. 725, Little Sugarcreek)

The police have offered to place an officer to show presence in the area and assist catching violators

Stop Arm & Dash Cameras as possible solution

While upgrading our camera systems will not stop the violators, we can help the driver's focus on the children's safety and aid with capturing details of the violator.

We know this will not stop the violators from running our red lights, it might stop repeat offenders and get the word out to the community we have a zero tolerance.

Additionally, adding training at the start of the school year to all buildings and using a social platform to educate and inform the community we can work towards zero violations.

Dash Camera & Stop Arm Camera Recommendation

710710 REI IP Camera

★★★★★ (0)No Reviews yet

Dash Camera: $288.60 each

STOPCAM-HD REI HD Stop Arm Camera Kit

★★★★★ (0)No Reviews yet

Stop Arm Camera: $281.25 each

Two Options

Option 1:

3 HD cameras inside the bus

1 Dash Camera
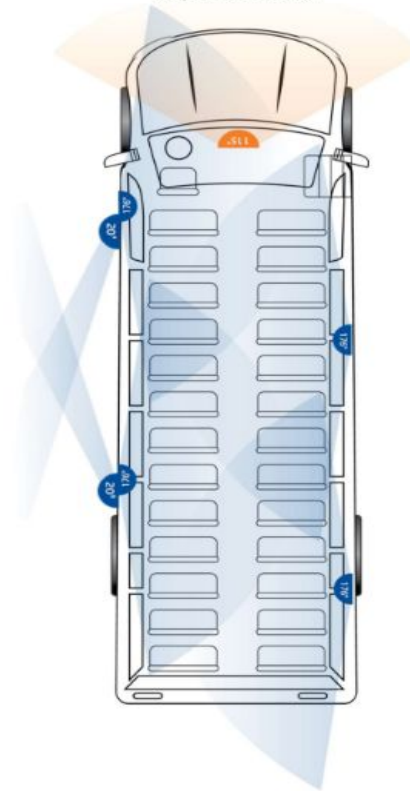
1 Stop Arm Camera

Uses the hard drive we have on 5 buses

Option 2:

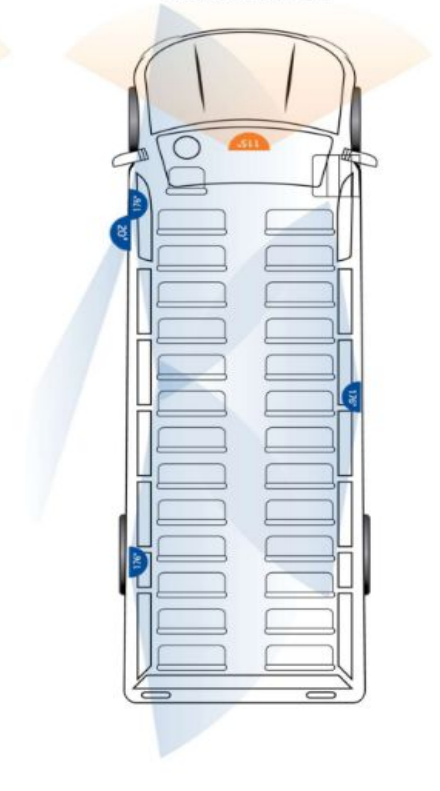4 HD cameras inside the bus

1 Dash Camera

2 Stop Arm Cameras

New hard drive with wifi capability gives option of live feed

REI

Suggested Camera Placement for:
Bellbrook Sugarcreek Schools

4 Interior Camera Option / 2 Stop Arm Cameras

3 Interior Camera Option / 1 Stop Arm Camera

Cost

The current system we install consists of:

 4 internal 5.0 HD cameras, 500GB Hard Drive, cable and connectors

Cost: $2,147.50 per bus.

Option 1

3 internal 5.0 HD cameras, 500GB Hard Drive, Dash Camera, and 1 Stop Arm camera, cables and connectors.

Cost : $2,493.75 per bus. (Dash Cam $288.60/each Stop Arm 337.50/each)

Option 2

4 internal 5.0 HD cameras, 1 TB WIFI +GPS Hard Drive, Dash Camera and 2 Stop Arm cameras, cables and connectors.

Cost: $3,815.00 per bus

To update and install on current fleet with capability (16 Buses): $61,040.00

(16 buses are 2011 and older and not compatible/value equation with the upgrade)

3-Layer Approach

I would like to propose a 3 layer approach:

1. At the beginning of the school year, DOT will host an assembly at each school building on safe loading/unloading practices
2. Create a social media campaign on BSS zero tolerance for Red Light Runners
3. Install the new system with stop arm camera(s) on the 4 new buses, place those buses on the roads where we see the most violators that we cannot catch. Then gather the data on the camera systems performance for capturing the missing information and subsequently the conviction rate.