

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 18, 2016



Sgt. Martin Ruiz, Copperas Cove Police Department
mruiz@copperascovetx.gov
Fax: (254) 542-5508

302 E Ave E
Copperas Cove, Texas
Phone: (254) 547-8222

School Zone Enforcement

COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS – The Copperas Cove Police Department would like to remind all motorists the enforcement of School Zone Laws will start again on **Monday, August 22, 2016**, as the 2016-2017 school year begins. There will be additional officers on duty working the morning and afternoon school zone areas.

Speed Limits – An operator of a motor vehicle must decrease their speed during morning and afternoon hours, as designated in school zone areas marked by signs and/or flashing signals.

Phone Calls – An operator of a motor vehicle may not use a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle within a school zone unless the vehicle is stopped or the device is used with a hands-free device. An affirmative defense to prosecution regarding this offense is that the wireless communication device was used to make an emergency call to an emergency response service, a hospital, a fire department, a health clinic, a medical doctor's office, an individual to administer first aid treatment or a police department, and does not apply to an operator of an authorized emergency vehicle while acting in an official capacity.

Text Messaging – An operator of a motor vehicle may not use a wireless communication device to view, send, or compose an electronic message or engage other application software while operating a motor vehicle in a designated school zone.

The Copperas Cove Police Department would like to encourage all motorists to remain observant and drive safely while operating motor vehicles for the safety of our school children. Any further clarifications to these laws can be referenced in the City of Copperas Cove Code of Ordinances at www.ci.copperas-cove.tx.us or Texas Transportation Code at www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us