

## Seaman Unified School District #345

## SEAMAN EDUCATION CENTER

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Seaman School District would like to thank the Kansas School Bus Stop-Arm Committee for your leadership on this important issue. Every school day, around 2,900 Seaman School District students ride to and from our schools on 72 busses. We are a rural community in Shawnee County, mostly outside of Topeka with no sidewalks, curbs, or shoulders around our schools and in most neighborhoods, so walking to school is not an option for the majority of our students.

Our unique pedestrian circumstances are one of several reasons we offer bus transportation to all students in our district, no matter the distance, at no cost. Each USD 345 bus is equipped with three cameras and GPS tracking to effectively monitor the safety and security of our students and staff. We believe the investment in these additional options helps increase the safety of our riders.

While we do our best to provide safe loading and unloading zones for our kids, there remains a risk of motorists passing and failing to yield when school busses are stopped with the stop-arm and flashing lights activated.

At Seaman School District, we believe House Bill 2532 would increase student safety by allowing school districts to enforce stop arm violations using cameras and a civil penalty process.

We are proud to provide our families with a safe and convenient mode of transportation each day and we look forward to working with this committee to reinforce the importance of the Kansas law KSA 8-1556 which requires all motorists to stop when approaching or overtaking a stopped school bus.