

# f.o.c.u.s.-online

## Texas Foster Family Association

### NEW Cell Usage in Texas

There are many towns and cities in Texas that have passed new Cell phone usage for those driving. You can see [HERE](#) those NEW laws in your own area.

### Do You Know?

School Buss Rules: Do you know them? You can read them [HERE](#).

### You!

As the new school year begins, we at TFFA want to let each one know that we appreciate those across our wonderful State that stands 'in-the-gap' for our most vulnerable...our children.

This can be a hard time for families; especially with the extra expense of clothing, Dr. visits, supplies, etc. It can be hard for the children too if they are starting a new school and making new friends.

We hope you know that we are thinking of you and are here if we can be of service during this time.

We have exciting news coming up soon. Be looking for our next issue of our FOCUS-online.



## School Will Soon Start

The end of summer means millions of Texas children will soon return to school. TxDOT reminds drivers to be extra cautious as school zones become more active and be aware of [school bus safety](#).

Last year, 663 vehicle crashes occurred in school zones in Texas, resulting in zero deaths and 21 serious injuries. August and September of 2014 alone saw 107 crashes in school zones. The most common factors contributing to these crashes were driver inattention, failure to control speed and failure to





## School Supplies

Many areas across Texas are helping families with School supplies and uniforms (if required). Check with your school district; they will know if there is assistance available in the area.

## TFFA Scholarship

Are you aware that TFFA has Scholarship funds available to the birth, foster, and adopted children of it's Members?

You can learn more about that process [HERE](#).

## TFFA Welcomes New Board Members

TFFA has several NEW Board members. We Welcome

Wanda Montag - Secretary

Dorothy Place - Parliamentarian

Frank Lopez - Training-Education  
Chair

Jennifer Sulfridge - Scholarship  
Chair

yield the right of way at stop signs.

Following these simple tips can help Texas children reach school safely and help drivers avoid costly fines and tickets.

### Tips for Driving in School Zones

- Put away your cell phone. Cell phone use is banned in active school zones, and violators face fines of up to \$200 in school zones where signs are posted.

- Always obey school zone speed limit signs. Remember, traffic fines usually double in school zones.

- Drop off and pick up your children in your school's designated areas, not the middle of the street.

- Keep an eye on children gathered at bus stops.
- Be alert for children who might dart across the street or between vehicles on their way to school.



### **Tips for Children Walking or Biking to School**

- Always cross at intersections and designated crosswalks. Look left, right and then left again before proceeding.
- Look for traffic when stepping off a bus or from behind parked cars.
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street.
- Always obey crossing guards.
- Always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle.