



School District Liaison Committee Meeting  
Thursday, February 5, 2026 - 5:00 PM  
AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Crossing Guards
  - a. Executive Summary
3. Other Business
4. Adjourn

# **Executive Summary: School Crossing Guards for Johnstown, Ohio**

Johnstown-Monroe Local Schools currently have students crossing two high-volume state routes adjacent to school property without traffic control or crossing supervision. This presents a documented safety risk to students and creates unnecessary exposure for the City of Johnstown and the school district. Ohio law allows local authorities to appoint and train school crossing guards, including on state routes, with coordination from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). Best practice in Ohio places authority, training, and supervision with the municipality or local law enforcement agency, not the school district. This proposal recommends implementing a limited pilot crossing guard program focused on student arrival and dismissal times at designated crossings on the state routes fronting Johnstown-Monroe schools. The program would be city-authorized, police-trained, insured through the city, and supported by the school district through coordination and communication. The goal is to improve student safety, reduce liability exposure, and establish a scalable, cost-controlled solution that meets Ohio legal and transportation standards.

## Ohio Legal Authority (Revised Code)

- **Ohio Revised Code §4511.75** – Authorizes local authorities to appoint school crossing guards and grants guards authority to stop traffic when performing official duties.
- **Ohio Revised Code §4511.01 & §4511.81** – Establish pedestrian right-of-way and traffic control authority applicable to school crossings.
- **ODOT Traffic Engineering Manual** – Provides guidance for crossings located on state routes, including signage and location approval.
- **Local Police Authority** – Training, supervision, and enforcement authority is typically assigned to the municipal police department.

## Implementation Checklist (Johnstown-Specific)

- Confirm that the City of Johnstown and/or Johnstown Police Department has authority to appoint and supervise school crossing guards.
- Request a traffic and pedestrian safety study at the state-route crossings adjacent to Johnstown-Monroe school facilities.
- Coordinate with ODOT District 6 to approve crossing locations, signage, and any striping on state routes.
- Establish a training program led by the Johnstown Police Department covering STOP paddle use, roadway positioning, and emergency procedures.
- Determine staffing model: paid city employees or formally appointed community volunteers with city oversight.
- Confirm liability coverage under the City of Johnstown's insurance policy and clarify supervision responsibilities.
- Launch a pilot program limited to morning arrival and afternoon dismissal times.
- Develop a communication plan to inform parents, staff, and students of new crossing procedures.