

## GPS Units and Their Use on a School Bus

While the current NH School Bus Transportation Rules (Saf-C 1300) do not make a specific reference to the use of GPS units, a recent inquiry made to the Dept. of Safety has prompted Trooper Cathy McHugh to offer the following policy or understanding related to the use of such units.

-It will not be seen as a violation if a school bus driver makes use of a GPS unit provided it is in the voice mode and that if affixed to the vehicle that it not be placed in such a manner to obstruct or impair the field of vision necessary to operate the bus in a safe manner, nor should the unit require the driver to avert his or her vision to make use of it.

-In the case of drivers who may possess or be given a cell phone which has GPS built in, the rules regarding the use of cell phones would prohibit the use of such a device. The use of cell phones is prohibited while operating a school bus.

Future versions of the school bus rules will likely further address the use of GPS units.