

SCHOOL CROSSING SIGNS

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School crossings are made safer with traffic control devices. PennDOT outlines safety measures in PennDOT Publication 236, Handbook of Approved Signs and the MUTCD.

School Crossing Assembly

Publication 236 and Section 7B.12 of the MUTCD provides standards and guidance on the school crossing assembly. The assembly shall consist of a School (S1-1) sign supplemented with a diagonal downward pointing Arrow (W16-7P) plaque to show the location of the crossing. The school crossing assembly graphic shows an example of the layout.

This section states that the school crossing assembly shall be installed at or as close as possible to school crossings. However, the assembly shall only be used at crossings adjacent to schools and along established school pedestrian routes. At other crosswalks, the pedestrian crossing assembly must be used. Further, the school crossing assembly cannot be installed on approaches controlled by a Stop or Yield sign.

School Crossing Assembly



S1-1

W16-7P

A school crossing assembly includes a School (S1-1) sign coupled with an Arrow (W16-7P) plaque pointing toward the location of the crossing.

School Advance Crossing Assembly

Publication 236 and Section 7B.11 of the MUTCD provides standards and placement for the school advance crossing assembly. The school advance crossing assembly shall consist of a School (S1-1) sign supplemented with an Ahead (W16-9P) plaque or a Distance Ahead (W16-103P) plaque. The assembly shall be used in advance of the first school crossing assembly that is encountered in each direction as traffic approaches a crosswalk. Table



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2C-4 Guidelines for Advance Placement of Warning Signs from the MUTCD details where to place the school advance crossing assembly based on speed. The assembly may be omitted where a School (S1-1) sign is installed to identify the beginning of a school zone in advance of a school crossing assembly. The school advanced crossing assembly graphic provides an example of which signs may be included in this assembly.

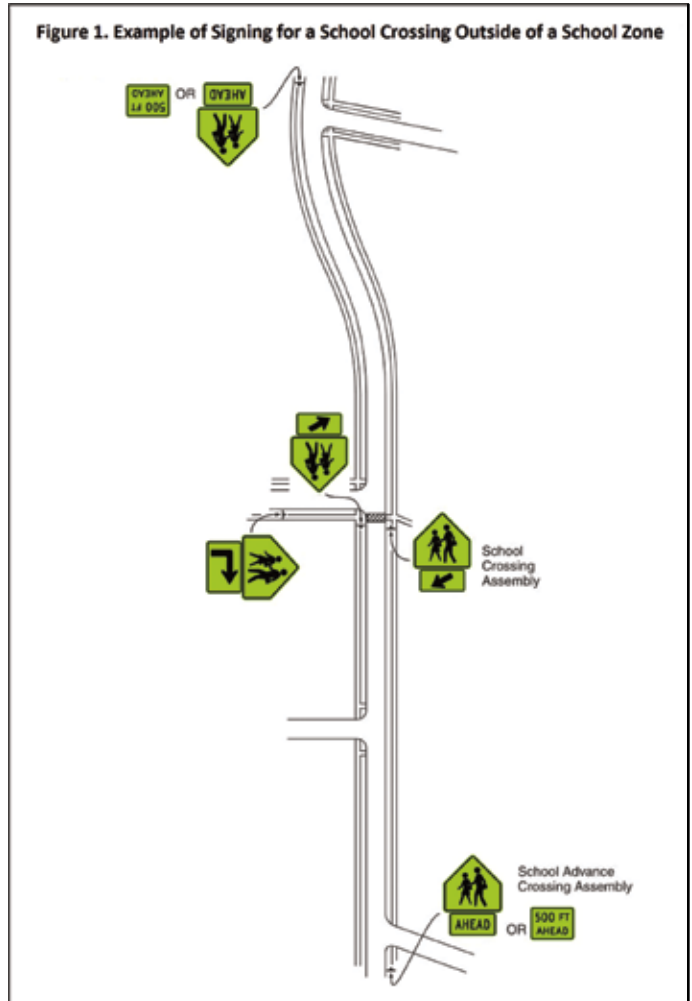
Sometimes a school crosswalk is located on a cross street with proximity to an intersection. In a case like this, a school advance assembly with a supplemental Arrow (W16-5PL, W16-5PR, W16-6PL or W16-6PR) plaque may be installed on each approach to warn drivers of the upcoming school crosswalk. Figure 1 shows an example usage of the school advance crossing assembly.

Providing students with safe routes to walk to and from school is critical. The proper implementation of the school

crossing assembly and school advance crossing assembly on established school pedestrian routes helps keep road users and pedestrians safe. For more information on pedestrian and crosswalks or school transportation management, register for an LTAP class at <https://gis.pennndot.pa.gov/ltap/> and you can always call LTAP at 1-800-FOR-LTAP for free assistance.



This graphic shows which signs may be included in the school advance crossing assembly.



This graphic illustrates the usage of the school advance crossing assembly.

Resources

PennDOT Pub. 236

www.dot.state.pa.us/public/pubsforms/Publications/PUB%20236.pdf

MUTCD

https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno_2009r1r2r3.htm