

## First Student

### Creating the best start and finish to the school day

Riding a bus is the safest way for children to get to and from school. It's safer than walking, riding a bike or even riding in the family car.\*

Children are in good hands each time they ride on a First Student bus. Our drivers recognize the opportunity they have to impact each student's day in a positive manner. First Student is proud to support the community by making sure children have a safe and reliable way to get to and from school.

We encourage students and parents to follow these tips for a safer bus ride:



#### At the bus stop

- Be aware of moving traffic.
- Pay attention to your surroundings; talking, texting or listening to music on your cell phone or playing handheld video games may lead to distractions and potential injury.
- Stay on the sidewalk, away from the curb, if possible, at least 15 feet from where the bus will stop. Do not move toward the bus until the bus has come to a complete stop.



#### Boarding the bus

- Wait for the bus to stop completely before you move toward it to get on.
- Be cautious of clothing or backpacks, toggles or key chains that can get caught on the bus handrails and doors.
- Hold the handrail going up and down the stairwell so you don't trip.



#### On the bus

- Find a seat and sit down as soon as you're on the bus.
- Be courteous and respectful to your driver.
- Don't put your head, arms, papers or anything out the windows.



#### Exiting the bus

- If you are crossing the street, always wait until the driver lets you know it's okay to cross.
- Stay away from the bus wheels and front bumper at all times. Never go under the bus – the driver cannot see you.
- If you drop something, don't go back to pick it up until the bus leaves the stop.



#### Safety tips for parents/guardians

- If you meet a child at the bus stop, make sure to wait on the same side of the street where the child will be dropped off, so he or she won't have to cross the street.
- If you bring a toddler or small child to the bus stop, be sure to hold his or her hand as the bus approaches or leaves the stop.

\*According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, school buses are approximately 20 times safer than passenger cars and nearly 10 times safer than walking or biking to school.