

Back To School Safety Tips For Parents and Students 2019-2020

These safety tips are offered to give you an opportunity to focus on the importance of safety as we begin the 2019-2020 school year. Many accidents can be deterred by safe actions/precautions. We would like to offer some suggestions to help ensure that this year is as safe as possible which will lead to a healthy, enjoyable, and productive year.

Parents, we ask for your help in making this a safe and successful year, and you can certainly help by continuing to be good role models in safe actions, i.e. buckling up while in the car, wearing a helmet while riding bikes, following all pedestrian and driver safety rules, never texting while driving, just to mention a few.

The tips which follow can be a starting point in helping maintain safe and orderly schools in our district. If you have any questions about this important topic, please contact **Dave Spencer** at **910-254-4275**.

Walking to School:

Ensure your child leaves early enough to get to school in plenty of time prior to the start of school.

Use the same route each day and avoid shortcuts.

Use public sidewalks and streets.

Choose the safest route between home and school and practice walking it with students until they can demonstrate traffic safety and awareness.

Walk to school with other students if possible.

Teach students to recognize and obey traffic signals and pavement markings.

Cross at designated crosswalks, street corners and controlled intersections (never between parked cars).

Always check in all directions before crossing the street.

Go straight home after school, unless parents/guardians are aware of anything different.

Avoid conversations with strangers, and tell a trusted adult as soon as possible if approached by a stranger.

Riding Bicycles:

Check with the principal to make sure that bicycles are approved.

Make sure the student is wearing a helmet.

Obey the rules of the road; the rules are the same for all vehicles, including bikes.

Stay to the right-hand side of the road, and ride in the same direction as traffic.

Know and use appropriate hand signals.

Choose the safest route between home and school, and practice it with students until they can demonstrate traffic safety and awareness.

Bus Stop:

The school bus stop, including the bus stop area, is an extension of the school and all school rules and regulations that pertain to student conduct in the school are applicable to student conduct on the bus and at the bus stop. The Student Discipline Policy is applicable (NHCS Bd. Policy 8410).

The principal has authority over students on the bus and at designated bus stops, and that authority is delegated to the bus driver; the driver has the responsibility for the safe operation of the bus and will refer all students who violate regulations to the principal/assistant principal.

A student shall only ride his/her assigned bus.

Arrive at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus.

Stand on the sidewalk or the edge of the street by the curb while waiting for the bus.

Allow the bus to come to a complete stop before approaching the bus.

Board the bus in a quiet and orderly manner.

Cross the street in front of the bus while traffic is stopped.

Riding the Bus:

Remain seated while on the bus.

Be quiet and avoid shouting or distracting the driver in any way.

Obey all rules of the bus driver, just as in any classroom.

Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before getting up to leave the bus.

Driving (parents/guardians):

Always use child safety seats and safety belts correctly.

Arrive early, especially the first few days/weeks of school, and use the designated student drop-off and pick-up zones.

Follow the designated procedures for Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up; this will assist in maintaining a safe and orderly flow of traffic.

Maintain patience and cooperation with school staff during the drop-off and/or pick-up process.

Follow all rules and regulations of driving in traffic.

In School/Campus:

Ensure that parents and students are aware of all school rules governing student behavior while in school or at school functions.

Teach children proper playground behavior.

Keep personal identification information confidential.

Clean out bookbags regularly.

Ensure that no contraband is in a student's bookbag or automobile.

Report any hurtful, harmful, or negative behaviors to a trusted adult on campus.

Encourage students to refrain from bringing electronic devices to school to avoid the risk of thefts or the temptation of using them during class times.

Stay positive and surround yourself with positive people.

If you have any questions about school safety, please contact Dave Spencer, Director of Safety at 910-254-4275.