

Student Safety is Priority One!



Fall - 2017

Safety Starts at the Bus Stop



For Parents:

Your child should arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Visit the bus stop and show your child where to wait for the bus: at least three giant steps (six feet) away from the curb. Remind your child that the bus stop is not a place to run or play.

Get On and Off Safely

When the school bus arrives, your child should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, the door opens, and the driver says it's okay before approaching the bus door. Your child should use the handrails to avoid falling.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the school bus is the safest vehicle on the road—your child is much safer taking a bus to and from school than traveling by car. NHTSA believes

school buses should be as safe as possible. That's why safety standards for school buses are above and beyond those for regular buses.

Learn the Laws

Learn and obey the school bus laws Washington, as well as the "flashing signal light system" that school bus drivers use to alert motorists of pending actions:

Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.



Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop-arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.



School Security Officers Added to SKHS

Two additional School Security Officers (SSO) will be added to support South Kitsap High School this year. With the student population close to 2,800, the additional positions will ensure everyone's safety at school.

These four security personnel are not law enforcement officers, like our School Resource Officers (SRO) who are commissioned law officers. SSO's are employed by the school district for the purpose of maintaining order and discipline, preventing crime, and investigating violations of school rules or policies.

A School Security Officer is also responsible for helping to maintain the safety, security, and welfare of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors in an assigned school.



Your Tax Dollars at Work

Improved School Security

All South Kitsap elementary schools now have secure access door locks. School doors are locked throughout the day and visitors now need to use a call system to request entrance to the school.

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Pedestrian Safety

The Hard Facts

Unintentional pedestrian injuries are the fifth leading cause of injury-related death in the United States for children ages 5 to 19. Teenagers are now at greatest risk due to the distraction of cell phones, headphones, and other electronic devices.

Top tips to make sure your kids get to and from school safely

- ➔ Teach kids at an early age to look left, right and left again before crossing the street. Then remind them to continue looking until safely across.
- ➔ Teach kids to put phones, headphones and devices down when crossing the street. *It is particularly important to reinforce this message with teenagers.*
- ➔ It's always best to walk on sidewalks or paths and cross at street corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.
- ➔ Children under 10 need to cross the street with an adult. Every child is different, but developmentally, most kids are unable to judge the speed and distance of oncoming cars until age 10.



- ➔ Be a good role model. Set a good example by following the same rules you teach your kids.
- ➔ Wear lightly colored or reflective clothing at night and brightly colored clothing during the day.
- ➔ Walk in well-lit areas, especially when crossing the street.
- ➔ If possible, make eye contact with drivers in stopped vehicles to ensure they see you before you cross in front of them.



Students and Staff Practice Emergency Preparedness

**SHAKEOUT
EARTHQUAKE DRILL
OCTOBER 19, 2017**



All South Kitsap schools will participate in the Great Washington ShakeOut Earthquake drill on October 19. While each school practices routine safety drills throughout each school year, the Great Washington ShakeOut is an opportunity for the entire district to work together and practice our emergency preparedness procedures.

The Great Washington ShakeOut is a day of special events featuring the largest earthquake drill ever, organized to inspire Washingtonians to get ready for big earthquakes, and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes. What we do now, before a big earthquake, will determine what our lives will be like afterwards. The ShakeOut drill will occur in houses, businesses, and public spaces alike throughout Washington at 10:19 a.m. on October 19, 2017.

Free registration at www.ShakeOut.org/washington/register will pledge an individual's or group's participation in this important preparedness event. Participants will receive information on how to prepare for the inevitable major earthquake in the region and what actions to take during and after the shaking.



Non-Discrimination Statement

The South Kitsap School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its program or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The South Kitsap School District offers classes in many career and technical education program areas (Business & Communications, Technology Education, Agriculture, and Health & Human Services) under its open admissions policy. For more information about CTE course offerings and admissions criteria, contact Sara Hatfield - CTE Director, 2689 Hoover Ave SE, Port Orchard WA 98366, 360-874-7064. Lack of English language proficiency will not be a barrier to admission and participation in career and technical education programs. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Title IX Coordinator

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