

BUS RIDER RESPONSIBILITIES

- **BE SAFE**
- **BE KIND**
- **BE COOPERATIVE**

REMEMBER TO.....

- Look left and right before crossing the road.
- Walk on the sidewalk off the roadway facing traffic.
- Get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- When the bus approaches, stand at least three giant steps (12 feet) away from the curb, and line up away from the street.
- Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and a hand signal from the driver says that it's okay before stepping onto the bus.
- If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least ten giant steps (12 feet) ahead of the bus before you cross. Make eye contact with the driver and wait for the hand signal before crossing the street.
- Use the handrails to avoid falls. When exiting the bus, be careful that clothing with draw strings, and book bags with straps don't get caught in the handrails or doors.
- Report any problems to your driver.

NEVER.....

- Run to the bus.
- Walk behind the bus.
- If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not be able to see you.
- Do not accept rides from strangers, even if you miss the bus.



Chimacum and Port Townsend School Districts
360-302-5811 ****OUR NEW NUMBER****
<http://csd49.org/domain/44>

CHIMACUM

SCHOOL DISTRICT GUIDE TO BUS SAFETY

The Transportation Department would like to welcome you to our school. School is an exciting place with many new things to learn and see. Our part in your child's education is to teach them how to get to school and home safely. Please help us in teaching them bus safety.



Please visit the district's transportation web page for bus schedules, snow information, and other transportation related information.

GOING TO SCHOOL

We ask that you bring your child to the bus stop or that they are accompanied by an older child.

From the first day of school the students need to be instructed to walk on the sidewalk or off the roadway facing traffic when walking to the bus stop.

Students should walk in groups whenever possible because a group is more visible and less likely to be bothered. Students should stay with the group and not talk to strangers.

The school district requires students to arrive at the bus stop five (5) minutes prior to the bus arrival time. Students who have to run to catch their bus create a hazard for themselves, as well as others. Instruct your child not to run for the bus if they are late.

School bus drivers are to let their students know at the beginning of the year where to stand safely and to remain in this safe location until the bus has stopped and eye contact is made with the driver.



If your child is to cross the street, wait for a hand signal from the driver to assure them that it is safe to cross the street and load the bus. They may need to stand at a fence or by a bush or some other landmark, please make a

plan with your child where to stand so they are in plain sight.

NEVER CROSS THE ROAD BEHIND THE SCHOOL BUS!!

While the students are proceeding to and from their bus stops and waiting for the bus, they should be respectful of other peoples' property. Most people really do not mind having stops near their homes when students are well behaved and respectful.

As students approach the stop, the driver must be observant to hazards or possible problems. Expect the students to wait in line without

pushing or shoving and not come towards the bus until it has stopped completely.

LOADING THE BUS

As the bus come to a stop, you will see the top set



of amber lights start flashing.

These amber lights are to warn oncoming cars and

those following the bus that it is about to stop. It is not required that traffic stop for the amber flashing lights.

When the bus has stopped the driver will not activate the red lights until they are sure that all traffic can come to a stop safely.

If your child is on the same side of the road as the bus, make sure to keep them back 12 feet until the bus door opens.

If your child is across the street to the bus, the driver will first check the mirrors to see if it is safe to cross. The student and the driver need to make eye contact at this time and the driver will signal with their hand for the student to cross the street. The student **still** needs to look both ways to make double sure all traffic is stopped.

WHILE RIDING THE BUS

Students may be assigned a seat in which he/she will be seated at all times unless permission to change is given by the driver.

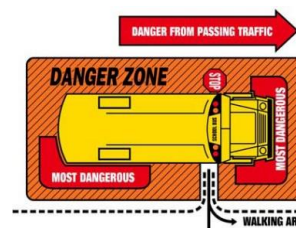
Students will be seated in sections by school. High school in the back, middle school in the middle, and elementary in front. Kindergarten students will be assigned to the front seats **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

GOING HOME FROM SCHOOL

School policy states there must be someone at the bus stop to meet a kindergarten age child. Because your child may not know where their stop is, it is important that you contact the school office or the Transportation Department to find out the appropriate stop. It is also a good idea to take your child to the stop before the first day of school so

they can be familiar with the area. Please arrive at your child's stop **15 minutes** prior to the arrival of the bus. Information for stops is available online.

As the bus approaches the stop, you will see amber flashing lights and then the red flashing lights will come on. The driver will check to make sure all traffic is stopped. If your child must cross the street, he or she should stand at the end of the crossing arm guard. At this point the child needs to make eye contact with the bus driver. The driver will again check traffic and when it is safe, signal by hand for the child to cross the road, they must look left and right to again be sure no traffic is coming. **Please do not ask your child to cross at your request or signal.**



If your child is not crossing the road, they are to step twelve feet away from the bus and be on their way home.

Reminder students are permitted to have one alternate stop in addition to their home stop. If you want your student to go someplace else this will require a pass from your child's school. Passes are issued by sending a note to school with your child. Phone calls are not accepted in transportation except in an emergency.