

# ***BUS SAFETY***

- I. Waiting at Bus Stop
  - A. Line up quietly and avoid any pushing, hitting, etc.
  - B. Wait in a safe location off the street, if possible.
  - C. When near a bus, do not place any objects (sticks, pebbles, etc.) in or around the wheels or tires.
  
- II. Inclement Weather
  - A. Dangers are present when there is rain, snow, icy conditions, strong winds, poor visibility, etc.
  - B. Dangers can be involved when rain gear and heavier clothing are worn.
  - C. Throwing snowballs at the bus or at people is extremely dangerous.
  
- III. Boarding the Bus
  - A. Please do not push against the door or charge toward the bus.
  - B. Wait for bus to come to a complete stop before approaching it.
  - C. Pushing and hitting other children adds to the danger as well as being unacceptable behavior.
  - D. Use the hand rails when entering the bus.
  - E. It helps to let younger children board the bus first. Older children can help the younger children.
  - F. It is important to board the bus in single file.
  
- IV. Running for the Bus
  - A. It is dangerous to run after a moving bus (a leading cause of bus accidents).
  - B. Advise children what to do if they miss the bus (depends on age of child, distance from school, the weather conditions, etc.)
  
- V. Behavior on Bus & Proper Seating
  - A. Seats should not be overcrowded.
  - B. Sit properly and face forward.
  - C. Please keep the aisle clear.
  - D. Remain seated until bus stops. If you must stand, hold on to the back of a seat.
  - E. Too much noise on the bus distracts the driver. Yelling or shrieking is hazardous.
  - F. Never throw or pass anything out of the window.
  - G. Do not project any part of your body through a window at any time.
  - H. Backpacks are encouraged as they keep belongings contained. If you are wearing a backpack, it must be removed upon entering the bus.
  - I. If seatbelts are available, they should be used correctly.
  
- VI. Emergency Situations
  - A. Be aware of the exact location of all emergency exits. This will include:
    1. regular front and rear emergency door.
    2. push out or pop out windows
    3. roof hatches (only on newer buses).

- B. Be aware of the exact location of the following emergency equipment:
1. fire extinguisher
  2. first aid kit
  3. reflective devices (i.e. reflective triangles)
  4. door mechanism - how to open front door or emergency door in case the driver is incapacitated.
- C. Evacuate the bus in an orderly fashion. Students closest to the open exit should leave first with others to follow.
1. Remain calm and quiet. Don't push or shove.
  2. Listen carefully for instructions from the driver.
  3. Older children should assist the younger children.
  4. Wear coats, jackets, etc.
  5. Do not take books, lunch boxes, musical instruments, etc. with you.
  6. Exit from front door first. Use other emergency exits if front door is blocked.
  7. Move to a safe location away from the bus (at least 50 giant steps). This is especially important in the event there is a gasoline spill.
  8. Evacuate if driver is incapacitated and there is danger of fire or smoke, drowning, or a collision.