School Bus Safety & Rules

Waiting for the Bus:

1. Be at your stop approximately 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
2. By State law, children waiting at a bus stop must be at least 50 feet away from any intersection or corner.
3. Stay a safe distance from the curb, while waiting on the sidewalk area. Do not play games in the street.
4. Respect private property. Do not wander into carports or onto lawns. Do not sit on fences. Do not throw rocks. Do not vandalize property.
5. When you see the bus approaching, get in line immediately. Line up parallel to the street, away from the curb, facing the approaching bus.
6. Stand clear of the bus until it has come to a complete stop. Do not push or shove while waiting. Let smaller children board first.
7. The bus will come to a stop approximately 10 feet from the first student. Stand still until the bus stops completely and the door has opened. Do not move toward the bus until it has stopped.
8. If you miss the bus, go straight home. Remember, your bus driver has a schedule to keep, and if you are not at the bus stop he/she cannot wait for you.
    a. Parents should instruct their children on what to do if the bus is unable to pick them up, i.e., where to go and wait (back home or a friend's house) and whom to telephone (parents, school, or a friend).
    b. If we have a bus breakdown, another bus will complete the entire route. The replacement bus will run very late, but will service every stop. A voice message will be sent out as soon as possible to parents if buses are running more than 15 minutes behind.

After school Bus loading:

1. Depending on your campus, your student will be instructed to go to their assigned bus (based off of dot color on side) after school dismissal. (Location of bus depends on campus)
2. If there is no driver on the bus, students may not get on the bus. All students must line up and wait alongside bus.
3. Bus departs at 3:05 PM, if your student is late to the bus and the bus has departed, it cannot come back to the campus to pick up and you will need to find alternate transportation for that day.
4. Always use the handrail.
5. Go up the steps one at a time. Avoid pushing and shoving.
6. Go directly to your seat. The bus will not move until all passengers are seated.
7. State law does not permit passengers to stand in a moving bus.

Proper Loading and Unloading Procedures

When waiting for the bus at a designated school bus stop, students shall practice the following safety rules.

- Wait on the curb until the bus has come to a complete stop and the driver has opened the door
- NEVER run up to the bus as it is approaching the bus stop or school loading zone. You could trip and fall in front of the bus and be run over.
- Load the bus by waiting your turn in a single file line, entering one at a time.
- As soon as you board the bus, take your assigned seat, sitting flat on your bottom facing forward.
- If you must cross the street to board the bus, only do so after the bus driver has turned on the red flashing lights, the stop sign is extended, and the driver has motioned for you to cross the street.
- ALWAYS cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you.
- While the bus is one of the safest vehicles on the road, it has many blind spots or DANGER ZONES.

Danger Zones

By following a few simple rules, you can stay out of the danger zones and stay safe.

- Rear half of the bus along the sides near the rear wheels.
- On the left side of the bus due to passing traffic.
- In front of the bus closer than 10 feet (may be hard for drivers to see you).
- Rear of the bus – The driver may not be able to see you through his rear view mirror if you are closer than 15 to 20 feet behind the bus