



School Bus Safety Information for Parents

At the beginning of each school year before your child leaves for the bus stop...

- Conduct a "family meeting" to talk about the importance of your child's participation in school bus safety. Students should arrive at the bus stop early (generally 5 minutes is ample time), talk about the rules of the bus, and respecting the authority of the school bus driver.
- Check your child's clothing, book-bags, backpacks, or any other piece of equipment for drawstrings or dangling items that have been attached to zippers or handles which may become a hazard if caught in a door or on a grab-rail while boarding or exiting the bus. Constantly reinforce with your student that under NO circumstance should they return to the bus after departing to retrieve any item. **THEY WILL HAVE ENTERED THE DANGER ZONE.** (10 feet area around the bus)
- At least once, take your child to the bus stop to observe the surroundings, gain eye contact with the driver, and remind your child that they are to stand back at least 10-feet from the curb or edge of the road while waiting for the bus. Always be respectful of the property where the children are standing and give your child a dedicated route to and from the bus stop. If you are unable to meet the bus, please have an alternate plan in place for your child to insure they arrive home safely.

NOTE:

Moms, Dads, Daycare Providers - if your child does not get off the bus - call the dispatch office immediately at 816-986-2400. Buses have two-way radios to check for student riders or alternate schedules, substitute buses, or other transportation communications.

- Get involved in your local parent-teachers organizations (PTA), school board meetings, and other advocacy groups who share your interest in school bus safety. School bus safety is a shared commitment and expectation in our community.

School Bus Safety starts by following these simple rules. Please discuss with your child prior to the first day of school.

1. Line up when you see the bus coming.
2. Stand back at least 10 feet from the roadway.
3. Wait your turn to board the bus.
4. When crossing in front of the bus, **ALWAYS** wait for a driver to signal you with a 'thumbs-up', then cross at least 10 feet in front of the bus. **NEVER cross behind the bus.**
5. Always use the handrail when entering and exiting the bus.
6. Take your seat immediately and remain seated throughout the ride.
7. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings out of the aisle and inside of the windows.
8. **Always** follow the directions of the driver.
9. If you have a safety concern and are unable to communicate with your driver, ask for assistance from school staff or your parents.