



October Safety Tips – Be Safe on the Bus

Before the Bus

- Parents or older siblings should walk with young kids to the bus stop and wait with them until it arrives. Tell kids to get to the bus stop 5 minutes before bus arrives.
- Tell kids to stand at least three giant steps back from the curb as the bus approaches and board the bus one at a time.

On and Off the Bus

- Teach kids to wait for the bus to come to a complete stop, bus driver instructs them to get on or off, and never to walk behind the bus.
- Instruct children not to be additional distraction to the bus driver and follow the bus rules. Children should remain seated at all times unless bus comes to a stop at a bus stop and they are exiting.
- Report any bullying to the bus driver and school official as soon as possible.
- If your child needs to cross the street after exiting the bus, he or she should tell the bus driver before exiting, take five giant steps in front of the bus, make eye contact with the bus driver and cross when the driver indicates it's safe.
- Teach kids to look left, right and left again before crossing the street.
- Be careful of straps, loose clothing, or drawstrings that could get caught in the door. If your children drop something, they should tell the bus driver first and make sure the bus driver is able to see them before they pick it up.

Drivers

- Drivers should always obey the speed limit, slowdown in school zones, and near bus stops. Allow additional follow distance behind buses and anticipate them stopping frequently.
- Remember to stay alert and look for kids who may be trying to get to or from the school bus from all directions.
- Slow down and stop if you're driving near a school bus that is flashing yellow or red lights. This means the bus is either preparing to stop (yellow) or already stopped (red), and children are getting on or off.
- Be alert! Children arriving late for the bus may run into the street without looking for traffic. Watch for children playing and congregating near the bus stops.
- If the red lights are flashing and or stop sign is extended, you must stop your vehicle. Violation for not stopping are as follows:
 - Flashing red lights- section 22454 (c)(2) VC, fine amount-**\$680.00**
 - Extended stop sign- section 22454 (a) VC, fine amount-**\$680.00**