

School Bus Safety Curriculum

Field Trip Safety Reminders

All students attending a field trip are expected to be responsible for knowing and following bus safety rules. Here is a list of items to be reviewed with students.

- Follow directions the first time they are given. The teacher and chaperones are in charge and responsible. Pay close attention to the bus driver's instructions, particularly when the driver conducts the bus evacuation drill.
- Be polite; show good manners. Yelling, inappropriate language, rude gestures, pushing, shoving or teasing other bus riders is not allowed.
- Always remain seated. Face the front of the bus with both feet down. Keep the aisle clear of all objects.
- Some buses now have seat belts. If you find seat belts on the bus, be sure to learn how to use the seat belt correctly. Pay attention to the instructions given on seat belts.
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- Stay in your seat at all times. Sit and speak quietly so that the driver is not distracted; no shouting or yelling!
- Ask the bus driver or adults in charge before opening windows. Keep hands, feet, objects, etc. inside the bus at all times.
- Eating or drinking is not allowed on school buses. (Includes gum or candy.)
- Tobacco products, drugs, alcohol or dangerous items will not be allowed on the bus at any time.
- Be respectful of property. Writing on, cutting or damaging the bus in any way costs money and can be a safety hazard. Violators may be invoiced for repair costs.
- All students on field trips are subject to bus code regulations and our school's code of conduct is to be followed at all times. The same rules that apply at school also apply while attending a school sponsored field trip.
- When an adult in charge raises their hand to get your attention, your hand should be raised and you need to be silent and listen to the instructions or announcement being made.
- Remember to be respectful to the volunteer chaperones and follow your teacher's directives at all time. Failure to follow rules may jeopardize your attendance on future field trips.

Field Trip Bus Evacuation Script for Teachers

In the event a bus driver is unable to conduct an evacuation drill prior to a field trip, the following script is to be used by teachers conducting the drill:

“Good morning/afternoon” (Introduce yourself if necessary.)

“Please remain seated. Before we begin our trip I will explain the emergency evacuation procedure in the event of an emergency.”

“I will first explain the front door evacuation. If there is an emergency I will pass by your seat. You will calmly and quietly enter the aisle and exit the bus. The door side (right side will go first, followed by the left side, alternating back and forth). Please leave all of your belongings and proceed to a safe place, following the leader of the line.”

(WALK TO THE PUSH-OUT WINDOWS, ROOF HATCHES AND SIDE EMERGENCY DOOR AND SHOW THE STUDENTS AND SPONSORS HOW TO OPERATE THEM.)

“Other means of evacuations we could use in real emergencies are the rear door, side emergency door (on some buses), roof hatches. If the bus were on its side, and push out windows.)

Ask students if they clearly understand the procedures for evacuation and briefly answer questions.

Note: All “quoted text” in the script should be read to each group on each field trip before leaving the site.

Other Teacher Instructions:

Safety Reminders should have been presented to the students prior to the field trip but may need to be reviewed again.

Be sure to have a list of all students’ emergency information with you, including medical information, parent contact information, etc.

Report all accidents or injuries immediately to the school principal via cell phone.

School Bus Safety Reminders

(For students transported by bus to and from school each day)

Students riding a school bus should always:

- Arrive at the bus stop five minutes early.**
- While waiting for the bus, stay in a safe place away from the street.**
- Stand at least 5 giant steps (10 feet) away from the edge of the road or street.**
- Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says it is okay before stepping onto the bus.**
- If something falls under or near the bus, tell the driver. NEVER try to pick it up yourself!**
- Be careful that clothing with drawstrings and book bags with straps or dangling objects do not get caught in the handrail or door when exiting the bus.**

Crossing students should:

- Check both ways for cars before stepping off the bus.**
- Walk in front of the bus; never walk behind the bus.**
- Walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least 10 giant steps ahead of the bus.**
- Be sure the driver can see you, and you can see the bus driver. The bus driver cannot and others cannot see you if you are standing closer than 10 feet of the bus. Stay out of the danger zone!**
- Wait for the driver's signal to cross. Remember to cross in FRONT of the bus.**
- When you get on or off the bus, look for the bus safety lights and make sure they are flashing.**
- Be alert to traffic. When you exit the bus look left, right, left before you enter or cross the street.**
- Follow the same safety rules for field trips when riding a bus to and from school.**

