



SEPTEMBER 4, 2008

Back To School Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

First Student has launched an informative campaign via radio and newspaper media to remind everyone to do their part in ensuring the safety of the children riding yellow school buses. Please support this initiative by talking to your children about the following school bus safety tips.

Helpful Safety Tips...

School is back in session and yellow school buses are out in full force. First Student, Inc., the nation's leader in student transportation, would like to remind everyone to take a moment to talk to their children about school bus safety.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, riding a bus is the safest way for children to get to and from school. But everyone has a responsibility to discuss important safety rules with their children to make their ride to school on a school bus the safest it can be.

First and foremost, inform children to make eye contact with the driver. Staying ten giant steps away from the outside of the bus when entering or leaving the bus is one of the safest guidelines to reinforce. Additionally, tell them to:

First Student is Leading the Way

At First Student, our entire focus as a company is to take children to and from school safely each day. That's why we employ highly-trained drivers and maintain school bus fleets that utilize the latest technologies and safety features.

On The Bus

First Student buses have many advanced safety features, including:

- Global Positioning Systems (GPS) giving dispatchers exact locations, speed, stops, starts, and passes AT ANY TIME.
- Electronic reminder systems alert drivers to always check for sleeping children at the end of routes (a First Student first).
- Seats well-anchored with heavily padded, high backs to absorb impact.
- Flashing lights and extended stop arms warn motorists that children

- NEVER run after the bus – if you drop something, WAIT until the bus leaves or ask the driver for help.
- NEVER cross in front of the bus until the driver says it's OK.
- ALWAYS look both ways when crossing the street.
- WAIT for the bus to stop completely before you get on.
- STAY SEATED until the driver says it's OK to get up.
- BE COURTEOUS to the driver – unruly behavior can cause distractions.
- NEVER put head or hands out of the window and DON'T dangle things out of the window.

[FREE SCHOOL BUS SAFETY POSTER](#)
[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD](#)

Suitable for posting at exits, in hallways and cafeterias. Click the link above to download.

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are boarding or exiting.

- Smaller buses for preschool and special needs students use car seats or specialized restraint systems and have a monitor on board at all times.

Behind The Scenes

First Student is also making sure your buses are safe and well-maintained.

Stringent safety protocols are followed:

- Certified mechanics performing preventive maintenance to keep buses running at peak performance.
- Drivers conduct vehicle safety checks before each route.
- Drivers adhere to a strict no-idling policy to reduce emissions.



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