

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL BUS STOP SAFETY TIPS

FOR STUDENTS



► **TAKE 10** The Danger Zone is the space all around the school bus where most accidents happen. It extends out 10 feet in all directions. The school bus driver cannot see you in this zone or around the wheels either.

► **CROSSING**

If you must cross the road in front of the bus:

- Make eye contact with the driver.
- Wait for the driver to signal you when it is safe to cross.
- Be sure it is safe. Look left, right, and then left again.
- NEVER CROSS BEHIND THE BUS.

► **HEADS UP/PHONES DOWN** Put down phones and remove earbuds so you can see and hear what's happening while walking to or waiting at the bus stop.

► **STAY OUT OF THE ROAD** Never sit on the road or curb.

► **CROSSWALK** Stay on sidewalks and cross at corners and crosswalks as you go to and from the bus stop. If you must walk along a road, walk facing oncoming traffic.

► **DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS** Alert your bus driver as soon as possible if a stranger tries to approach you.

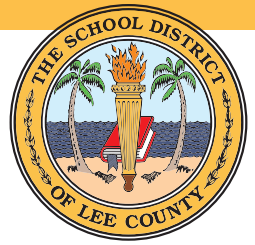
► **COMPLETE STOP** Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop. When the door opens, the driver will let you know it's OK to get on or off.

► **WATCH YOUR STEP** Use the handrails when getting on and off the bus. Be careful of straps or drawstrings that can get caught.

► **SEE AND BE SEEN** When you aren't on the bus, always make sure the driver can see you. If you cannot see the driver, they probably can't see you.

Sources: Safe Kids Worldwide, National Safety Council, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

For videos, lessons and safety quizzes, head to our website
www.leeschools.net/safety and click the Bus Stop Safety tile.



MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL BUS STOP **SAFETY TIPS** FOR PARENTS

A Safe Kids Worldwide study of students in school zones found that 17% of middle school students and 27% of high school students observed were distracted by mobile devices. 44% were wearing headphones, 31% were texting, 18% were on the phone, and 7% were a combination of the three. Of students walking, 80% were observed crossing against traffic lights, not looking before crossing or not crossing at designated crossing areas. Talk to your teens about paying attention as they travel to and from bus stops and school.



- ▶ Your child should arrive at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- ▶ If your child must walk to the bus stop on a roadway or shoulder where there is no sidewalk, they should always walk facing traffic.
- ▶ Encourage your child to put down the phone and take off the headphones while walking to and from and waiting at the bus stop.
- ▶ Your children should wear clothing that makes it easy for passing motorists to see them. Bright yellow, orange and white clothes are helpful. Reflective material, such as a jacket, shoes and/or a backpack with reflective stripes or tape, is also highly recommended. Headlights of a vehicle will pick up reflective clothing and gear from as far away as 500 feet.
- ▶ Remind your child to look left for traffic before stepping beyond the front of the school bus when crossing the street. Also, when stepping off the bus, children should look right to make sure the way is clear.

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