



Bus Safety Tips

Every year, Issaquah School District's buses travel over 1 million miles and provide over 2 million student rides to and from schools and school-related activities. Even with this high rate of use, school buses remain the safest motor vehicles on the highway – 70 times safer than passenger cars, light trucks and vans for transporting children ages 5 to 18, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

According to transportation experts, the most dangerous part of the school bus ride is getting on and off the bus. The National Safety Council encourages parents to review "safe ridership" facts with their children.

Students who ride school buses should always follow these simple, yet lifesaving, guidelines:

- ◆ arrive at the bus stop five minutes early
- ◆ stand at least five giant steps (10 feet) away from the edge of the road
- ◆ wait until the door opens and the driver says it's okay before stepping onto the bus
- ◆ be sure the bus driver can see you and you can see the bus driver
- ◆ stop at the edge of the bus and look left-right-left before crossing

During the school bus ride:

- ◆ always sit fully in the seat and face forward
- ◆ do not distract the driver
- ◆ never stand on a moving bus
- ◆ obey the driver
- ◆ speak in a low voice
- ◆ don't throw things
- ◆ never stick anything out the window – arms, legs, head, back packs, etc.

Motorists should slow down and be alert while in school zones. As a driver, you need to pay attention to where kids are and what they are doing. Be especially careful around school buses. It is illegal in every state to pass a school bus stopped to load or unload children.