



The Bus Zone

JANUARY 2010

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Nancy's Reminders:

January 5 – School Resumes
January 22 – No School
January 27 – 1:30 PM Dismissal
February 11 - No School
February 12 - No School
February 17 – 1:30 PM Dismissal
February 24 – No School

A Note from Angie...

By Angie Moore, Bookkeeper
Don't forget to turn in all fuel receipts to the office.

Substitute Bus Driver

By Nancy Romshek
If you know of someone who would be interested in driving as a sub please let me know.

Don't Forget...

By Nancy Romshek
I still have Germ-Free Surface Disinfectant spray and Fuel Therapy with Anti-Gel in the office. Pick them up before you need them.

"Danger Zone"

From Pupil Transportation Guide
It is vital that children are familiar with the "Danger Zone" and are instructed to stay at least ten feet away from the bus and never go behind the bus. Even with the mirrors provided on the bus, drivers have blind spots within the area around the bus.

Diesel Fuel Recommendations

Be mindful of these three issues on your diesel before cold weather strikes and you'll eliminate common diesel cold weather starting problems and at the same time help your diesel provide you with safe, reliable travels throughout the most challenging season of the year.

The Fuel Itself

Cold weather starting problems, sluggish diesel fuel, the necessity to use anti-gel additives . . . You've probably heard that the biggest problem with running diesels in cold weather is the tendency of the fuel to gel. No. 2 diesel (the grade recommended for most passenger vehicles) contains some naturally occurring paraffin (wax) and as the temperature drops, this paraffin crystallizes and affects the fluidity of the fuel and may cause hard starting and eventually lead to filter plugging. Unfortunately, this problem is exacerbated when biodiesel enters the equation—biodiesel tends to gel at a slightly higher temperature than diesel.

Luckily these problems are fairly easily solved. Regular diesel fuel is "winterized" or seasonally adjusted at the distributor before it's delivered to the pumps. Winterizing is done by mixing pump No. 2 diesel with No. 1 diesel, its more refined cousin. Winterizing diesel fuel is done to maintain the cold weather flow characteristics, and the ratios vary depending upon regional distribution. To effectively use biodiesel in cold climates, it must be mixed with winterized diesel in varying percentages, which, once again, are regionally dependent.

Tip: It's a good idea to add diesel fuel cold-weather treatment or an anti-gel additive to ensure that you maintain the low temperature flow characteristics of the fuel. Available at auto parts stores and department stores, anti-gel treatment may be conveniently kept in your trunk and poured directly into your diesel's fuel tank before filling up.

Post Trip Vehicle Check

From Pupil Transportation Guide (Nebraska Department of Education)

School bus drivers shall conduct an interior "walk through" inspection for students that may remain on a school bus at the end of each route and activity trip. Especially with long school bus routes, some of the students may fall asleep and not exit the bus at the appropriate time. The school bus drivers are responsible for the safe delivery of their passengers.

