



The Bus Zone

NOVEMBER 2007

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Angie's Reminders:

- 1:30 PM Dismissal on Wednesday, Nov. 21st
- No School on Thursday, Nov. 22nd
- No School on Friday, Nov. 23rd

Emergency Evacuation Drills

At least twice during each school year, each pupil to be transported in a pupil transportation vehicle shall be instructed in safe riding practices and participate in emergency evacuation drill.

Reminders:

- Drills should be held in restricted off-street areas and not on bus routes.
- All types of emergency evacuation should be practiced with emphasis on utilizing the rear emergency exit.
- As a school bus driver, your primary responsibility is pupil safety.

Winter Activities

By Angela Moore

On Monday, November 12th I will distribute the Bus Request Activity Forms for all the activities between November and January 12th. I hope this gives you a chance to make your holiday plans earlier than in the past. If you trade trips I need to know two weeks in advance, so I can relay that information to the substitute driver who I will call for you when you have activities. Speaking of substitute drivers, Gary Klahn will not be available to substitute until the end of January as he is the Middle School Girls and Boys Basketball coach. Substitute drivers include Brian Zeilinger, Anton Stuchlik and Tom Jahde. John Worm will be driving the 14-passenger bus to all Middle School Wrestling meets and Gary Klahn will drive to all Middle School Basketball games. I am in the process of obtaining a school bus license. I will let you know when it is official.

Repairs

By Angela Moore

As service and repairs on the buses continue to mount this year, please keep me and/or Mr. Phillips informed of mechanical or body issues. Russ Krupicka's bus will be replaced early next year. Due to Russ' continual update on issues we were able to work with the dealer on the replacement. Without his diligence in reporting we would have been 'stuck' with a bus that was a disappointment.

October's Risk Alert: The Rules

By ALICAP

Post the bus rules inside the bus for all passengers to see. If a new passenger begins riding the bus, explain the rules to him or her verbally, and show them where the rules are posted in the bus. If everyone is clear on what is expected of them, it will make disciplining a student more clear and understandable. Being consistent will be easier for the bus driver when the rules are clearly defined.

If a student or students act up and begin to distract the driver, here are some helpful tips on handling the situation:

- Pull over and park off the road
- Stand up and speak to the offender or offenders
- Take the keys with you when you stand up
- Call the ring leader to the front of the bus
- Be firm, but calm
- Talk with the student, but do not show anger
- Remind the student of the rules, and explain to them how students are expected to behave
- If the problem is serious enough, call an administrator or the school office.

Share the school bus rules with parents and teachers as well as the student passengers. This will help if a student acts up and has to be disciplined. This makes it very clear to the other disciplinarians why the student was reprimanded.

Bring a good attitude, and others will follow.