

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY



MY BUS NUMBER: _____

MY BUS DRIVER: _____

Brick Township Board of Education

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

THE BRICK TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT has the enviable record of not having a fatality or a major injury on or near a school bus. This record is attributed to competent, dedicated drivers and the cooperation of pupils and parents. Safety on a school bus is not the sole responsibility of the bus driver. It is a matter of teamwork that requires the constant support of the administration, the pupil, and the parent.

To maintain this record and to have a safe, orderly, and efficient transportation system, the Board of Education has established rules and regulations that require cooperation and support.

PUPIL RESPONSIBILITY

SCHOOL BUS REGULATIONS are to be obeyed at all times. Be careful approaching the school bus stop from home. When it is necessary to cross the street to board the school bus, allow 15 feet from the front of the school bus when crossing the street. Wait on your side of the street for the driver to stop the bus, put on the red lights, and signal you to cross the street. Look at the driver's face. If you can see him, he can see you.

Upon boarding the bus go to your assigned seat, buckle your seat belt, and remain there until the bus reaches school. The school bus is equipped with seat belts, you must wear them. **IT IS THE LAW!**

If it is necessary to cross the street returning home, go at least 15 feet from the front of the bus and wait for the bus driver to signal you to cross the street when it's safe. Be cautious on stormy days when driver visibility is poor. Walk quickly, you may be holding up traffic.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITY

Parents should review with their child the list of transportation regulations. At this time, the importance of observing these regulations should be stressed; not only for his or her own safety, but to protect the lives of all students riding the school bus.

Assume responsibility in the training of your child. Cooperate with school officials. Consider that the bus driver is a member of the school system and is entitled to the respect and courtesy due to all school personnel.

Please make your children aware of the location of the emergency doors and exits on the school bus. Accompany very young pupils to the bus stop each morning and meet the bus in the afternoon for the purpose of supervising conduct and early training of safety practices.

Help the driver maintain his schedule by making sure that pupils are ready on time. If parents send their children late to the bus stops, the time consumed by the driver waiting for these pupils could increase the bus time up to several minutes, thus delaying school arrival for many other students. Therefore **students must be at their bus stop 10 minutes before their pick up time.**

Bus drivers are not permitted to stop at any location other than authorized bus stops. Kindly do not ask the driver to stop at unauthorized locations. Cooperate with the school in limiting the number of bus stops, particularly with the potential for accidents and causing students to remain on the bus for longer periods of time.

Be sure you thoroughly understand and obey all traffic laws, rules and regulations pertaining to school buses. Encourage the safety habit among your friends and neighbors. Passing a stopped school bus is a 5 point ticket and a heavy fine.

In the event your child does not return to his/her assigned bus stop with the other children on his assigned bus, wait 5 minutes (possibly another bus will be right behind).

If not, notify the Transportation Office: (732) 785-3000, Ext. 2077, so that we can contact the appropriate school bus by radio. Please stay by your phone so we may contact you when your child is located. You will be notified where to meet the bus with your child aboard.

Please note:

PreSchoolers, Kindergarteners and 1st and 2nd graders must have a parent/guardian or emergency card contact at the bus stop for boarding and disembarking students. **PreSchool, Kindergarten and 1st and 2nd Grade students will not be dropped off unsupervised at their bus stop and will be returned to the school.**

School bus passes can be viewed and printed at www.Brickschools.org on the Transportation Department web page. Look for instructions on accessing the **e-Link** program. **Parents will need their child's Student ID number** to view/print the bus pass. Bus passes for the new school year will be online by August 25th.

SCHOOL BUS REGULATIONS

1. All riders are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times.
2. To protect our students from injury and the valuable property rights of our neighbors, students are to wait in an orderly fashion at the bus stop and are not to damage or destroy private property.
3. Should the bus driver need to abruptly stop the bus, it is imperative that the riders remain seated while the bus is in motion.
4. Obey the bus driver's instructions always.
5. To allow the bus driver to focus attention on the road without distraction, very loud talking, shouting, and laughing are prohibited.
6. Smoking and profanities are strictly forbidden.
7. Food and drinks will **NOT** be allowed on the bus to maintain a clean and safe environment for all riders. All food must be tightly wrapped and in a backpack. Please refrain from carrying school projects made with food products.
8. Windows will be opened **halfway** only. Students shall refrain from extending arms or other body parts out of the windows.
9. Nothing shall be thrown in the bus or out of the bus window so as not to endanger other passengers or cause an accident.
10. Vandalism, an unnecessary cost to our community, will be avoided if all students sit in their assigned seat at all times. When riding the bus, they will be held accountable for the condition of that seat and those in the vicinity. Treat bus equipment as you would valuable furniture in your own home. Damage to seats, etc., must be paid for by the offender.
11. No radios, cell phones, i-pods, cd players, hand-held video games, or skateboards are permitted at the school and therefore, are not permitted on the bus.
12. No animals are allowed on the bus at any time, unless they are given access as a service animal. Pets can result in an unnecessary and unsafe distraction to the bus driver.

13. Seat belts must be worn when the bus is in motion. **IT IS THE LAW!**

Students are to ride on their assigned bus to and from their assigned bus stop thus assuring that, for the student's safety, both parents and school administration know the location of the student at all times. **All students are assigned one pickup location and one drop off location** Monday through Friday during the school year. **Students are prohibited from riding other buses to and from school.**

14. All students are required to disembark at their designated bus stop.

15. All changes in Transportation must be completed at the student's school of attendance. **All changes must be received by August 1st to be effective for the new school year.**

** Visit us on the web at www.BrickSchools.org under the Transportation link for additional information including weather related delayed openings, early dismissals or school closings.

MISBEHAVIOR ON THE SCHOOL BUS

A bus discipline report will be issued by the bus driver should a student misbehave on the bus in a way that is a threat to the safety of one or all. This report will be filed with the School Principal for disciplinary action.

The Principal will interview offenders and other witnesses as necessary, to obtain a comprehensive picture of events that have occurred.

FIRST OFFENSE

WARNING LETTER

SECOND OFFENSE

FIVE OR TEN DAY BUS SUSPENSION

THIRD OFFENSE

TEN OR TWENTY DAY BUS SUSPENSION

This policy applies to all bus runs (regular, class trips, late runs, etc.). This also applies to the wearing of seat belts, when the bus is equipped with them. Continuous offenders can lose their transportation privileges.

In addition, any student who vandalizes a bus will be suspended from riding until the Board of Education has been reimbursed for the damage by the parent or guardian.

During a bus suspension, New Jersey Statute (listed below) clearly absolves the school from the transportation responsibility for the student, requiring the parent to provide for the child's on time arrival and departure to and from school for the duration of the bus suspension.

NEW JERSEY STATUTE, TITLE 18A:25-2:

“A pupil may be excluded from the bus for disciplinary reasons by the Principal, and his parents shall provide for his transportation to and from school during the period of such exclusion.”

NO PARENT OR ANY UNAUTHORIZED PERSON WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER A SCHOOL BUS AT ANY TIME. IF THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH A STUDENT OR DRIVER, PLEASE CONTACT THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OR THE PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL.

This booklet is being published as an ongoing effort to provide the safest transportation possible for your children.

DAYCARE AND BABYSITTERS:

Transportation can be arranged to Daycare or Babysitter locations, with the following requirements: **All requests must be 5 days per week for the entire school year.** The DayCare, Babysitter or Caregiver must live within the sending school boundary. **Approved Daycares can be found on our web page, www.BrickSchools.org, under the Transportation Tab. “Change of stop” forms are available in your school office. Once received by Transportation, please allow 72 hours for all changes to take effect.**

THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
(732) 785-3000, opt 7, opt 1



WHEN BOARDING YOUR BUS

STAY ON YOUR SIDE OF THE ROAD FAR FROM ANY TRAFFIC

WAIT FOR THE BUS TO STOP AND THE DRIVER TO SIGNAL YOU TO CROSS SAFELY

PAPER IF YOU DROP SOMETHING AND IT GOES BY OR UNDER THE BUS **DO NOT** GO AFTER IT UNTIL YOU TELL THE DRIVER FIRST

CHECK TRAFFIC BOTH WAYS; THEN CHECK AGAIN

CROSS WALK DIRECTLY ACROSS CHECKING BOTH WAYS

WALK APPROXIMATELY 15 FEET AHEAD OF THE BUS BUMPER AND BOARD QUICKLY

REMEMBER

**STAY OFF ROAD WAIT FOR DRIVER TO SIGNAL
CHECK TRAFFIC CROSS WHEN SAFE
WALK 15 FEET OUT FROM BUS
GO DIRECTLY TO YOUR SEAT**



WHEN **BOARDING** YOUR BUS RIGHT SIDE ONLY

STAY ON YOUR SIDE OF ROAD FAR FROM ANY TRAFFIC

WAIT FOR THE BUS TO STOP AND THE DRIVER SIGNALS YOU TO LOAD SAFELY

WALK TO THE BUS DO NOT PUSH OR SHOVE

PAPER IF YOU DROP SOMETHING AND IT GOES BY OR UNDER THE BUS **DO NOT** GO AFTER IT UNTIL YOU TELL THE DRIVER

WHEN **LEAVING** YOUR BUS - RIGHT SIDE ONLY

WAIT FOR THE BUS TO STOP AND THE DRIVER TO SIGNAL YOU TO UNLOAD SAFELY

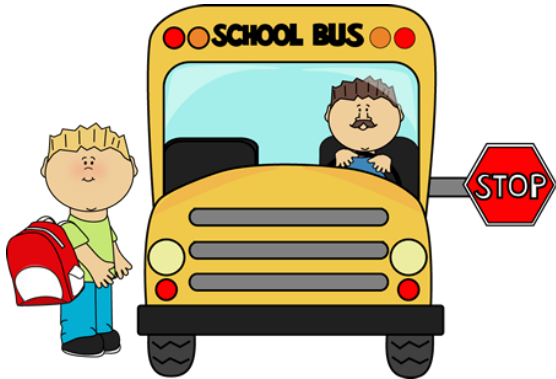
WALK DO NOT PUSH OR SHOVE GETTING OFF BUS

STAY ON YOUR RIGHT SIDE OF ROAD-FAR FROM ANY TRAFFIC

PAPER IF YOU DROP SOMETHING AND IT GOES BY OR UNDER THE BUS **DO NOT** GO AFTER IT - TELL THE DRIVER FIRST

WHEN YOU LEAVE YOUR BUS

HERE'S HOW TO CROSS THE ROAD
SAFELY



WALK ALONG THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROAD UNTIL YOU CAN SEE THE DRIVER 15 FEET DO NOT PUSH OR SHOVE

PAPER IF YOU DROP SOMETHING AND IT GOES BY OR UNDER THE BUS DO NOT GO AFTER IT UNTIL YOU TELL THE DRIVER FIRST

STOP WAIT FOR THE DRIVER TO SIGNAL YOU WHEN IT'S SAFE TO CROSS THE ROAD

LOOK FOR TRAFFIC FROM BOTH WAYS. IF YOU SEE A VEHICLE THAT STARTS TO MOVE WAIT BEFORE YOU START TO CROSS. WHEN ALL TRAFFIC HAS STOPPED, CROSS THE ROAD SAFELY AND QUICKLY

REMEMBER

WAIT FOR DRIVER SIGNAL TO GET UP FROM SEAT
STAY OFF ROAD
GO DIRECTLY HOME

BRICK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

BRICK TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUS TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

TO: Parent or Guardian of Student

Please Print

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

GRADE: _____ **TEACHER:** _____

SCHOOL: _____ **BUS NUMBER:** _____

I have read the Brick Township's Bus Safety Booklet.

I understand the contents of the Bus Safety Booklet.

I will talk to my child(ren), about the Rules and Regulations outlined in the Booklet.

I will stress Bus Safety, and Proper Bus Behavior to my child(ren).

I understand that the Privilege of using the School Bus depends upon my child(ren)'s behavior, and that I am responsible for his/her behavior on the Bus.

Please sign:

PARENT OR GUARDIAN **DATE**

Please return the Transportation Contract to your child's teacher as soon as possible.