

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

The Superintendent of Schools and building principals shall cooperate with governmental agencies on matters of safety. They shall establish and check loading and unloading procedures at each school and student conduct on buses. The Principal shall also:

1. inform parents and students of the need to obey the traffic safety rules and regulations, and enforce those regulations on the school site;
2. report, in writing, any overcrowding to the Transportation Supervisor;
3. require that students ride their assigned school bus except as permitted by the administration; and
4. take prompt action on all behavior problems.

Bus Safety Drills

The Superintendent of Schools shall arrange for a minimum of three bus drills on each school bus during the school year, with the first occurring during the first week of school, the second between November 1 and December 31, and the third between March 1 and April 30.

The drills must include instruction and practice in the location, use, and operation of the emergency door, fire extinguishers, first aid equipment, and windows as a means of escape in case of fire or accident. Drills must also include instruction in safe boarding and exiting procedures, with specific emphasis on when and how to approach, board, disembark, and move away from the bus after disembarking, and in the importance of orderly conduct by school bus passengers.

Such instruction and the conduct of the drills shall be given by a member of the teaching or pupil transportation staff at school site.

Students attending public and nonpublic schools who do not participate in the bus drills as required by the Regulations of the Commissioner also shall be provided with drills on school buses, or as an alternative, shall be provided with classroom instruction covering the content of such drills.

The Superintendent of Schools shall certify on the annual report to the State Education Department that the district has complied with the above requirements.

Student Medical Information Needed by Bus Driver

The names of students who have a medical history of seizures, allergic reactions to bee stings, diabetes, and other conditions that may require medical treatment shall be provided to the bus driver of the vehicle in which the student rides to and from school. This information will be provided to the Transportation Office by the School Nurse before the opening day of each school year. Such information will be kept confidential.

Cross-References:

Policy 8120 – Accident Prevention & Safety Procedures
Policy 8410 – Student Transportation – Public Schools
Policy 8416 – Special use of School Busses

References: Ed Law §§2, 1501-b, 1502, 3602 (7)(b), 3623, 3625-a, 3636,
8 NYCRR §156.3 (h)