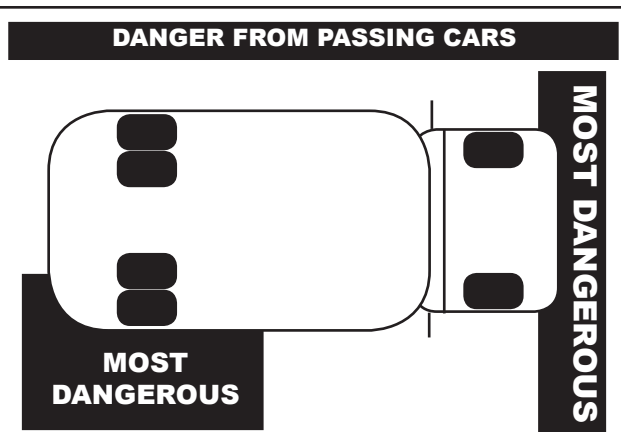


The Danger Zone

The Danger Zone is the space 10 feet all around the bus. The school bus driver cannot see children and small objects in the Danger Zone.

Avoid the Danger Zone -- Children's deaths can easily occur when children reach under the bus to get something they dropped or circle back behind the bus to talk to friends. Such deaths involve a disregard for the Danger Zone. Keep 10 giant steps in front of the bus. If you drop something in the Danger Zone, don't go back to pick it up yourself. Tell the bus driver.



Rules of the Road

Motorists must obey Pennsylvania's rules in regard to stopped school buses or face serious penalties.

- Flashing amber lights are a pre-warning that the bus is preparing to stop. Motorists must prepare to stop as well.
- When the red lights are flashing and/or the stop arm is extended, the bus is stopped to load or unload children. Motorists must also stop -- at least 10 feet from the school bus. Motorists may not proceed until after the red lights stop flashing and the stop arm is withdrawn. Of course, motorists should not proceed until it is clear that all children have reached a safe place.
- The only situation in which an approaching motorist may pass a school bus displaying flashing red lights is the following: when the motorist is approaching the bus from the front on a separate roadway on the opposite side of a highway that is clearly divided by physical barriers such as guiderails, concrete median barriers, a median strip, fencing or curbs. Motorists passing should do so only with caution.
- If you fail to stop for a school bus, you face the following penalties:
 - an automatic 60 day suspension of your driver's license;
 - five points on your driving record;
 - a \$250 fine.



Mark M. Gillen

State Representative
128th Legislative District

DISTRICT OFFICE:

29 Village Center Drive, Suite A7
Reading, PA 19607
Phone: (610) 775-5130
Fax: (610) 775-3736

HARRISBURG OFFICE:

PO Box 202128
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2128
Phone: (717) 787-8550
FAX: (717) 783-7862
email: mgillen@pahousegop.com

RepGillen.com

School BUS



Safety

School Bus Safety Rules

Getting To the School Bus:

Leave home early to catch the bus on time. Walk on sidewalks and well off the road. Walk facing traffic. Never walk between parked cars to cross the street. If you must cross a street, cross at a crosswalk or traffic light whenever possible. If not possible, be sure to stop, listen and look both ways before crossing. Look left, right and then left again.

Getting On the School Bus:

No horse playing! Line up in one row two giant steps from the

edge of the road. If you must cross the street to get on the bus, wait for the bus to arrive, the red lights to flash, the arm saying STOP to extend, and cars to stop in both directions. When the driver gives permission, you should then cross the street looking left, then right, then left again. Avoid the DANGER ZONE (see reverse side of this brochure). When getting on the bus, let smaller children load first and be sure to hold on to the handrail. Do not push or shove. Go directly to your seat.

Riding the School Bus: Sit quietly in your seat so the bus driver is not distracted. Never stand in the bus while it is moving. Obey all the rules and follow directions given by the driver. Keep books on your lap or under your seat.

Leaving the School Bus: Stay seated until the bus has come to a complete stop. Riders closest to the front of the bus should leave first, using the handrail. Move out of the DANGER ZONE (see reverse) before beginning to cross the street. Look into the bus driver's eyes to make sure that he/she sees you. Walk out to the end of the bus. STOP. Look



left, look right, then left again before stepping out into the street. Keep checking to the left and right while crossing the street.

Evacuation Drills:

Look for the EMERGENCY exits on the bus. Practice getting off the bus using an emergency exit (which may be a window, roof hatch, side or back door). Leave your be-

longings on the bus. Older students help younger students. Move away from the bus and off the road. Find a safe place at least 100 steps away from the bus. Stay together in a group.

Primer for Parents

1. Be sure to dress your child properly - warm clothes for cold days (the bus could be late) and bright clothes on dark, rainy days so the child is easily seen.
2. Be sure your child leaves the house early enough to get to the bus stop on time.
3. Be sure your child knows the safety rules if he or she misses the bus, if you're not home or if he or she wishes to get off at another stop other than his or her own. In the latter situation, the child must have a note from you to give to the school and to the bus driver.
4. Safe ridership habits begin at home and parents can be the best teachers. Go over this brochure with your child.

School Buses Get an "A+" For Safety

Nationwide, 23 million students ride a school bus to and from school each day, and according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, it is one of the safest forms of transportation around.

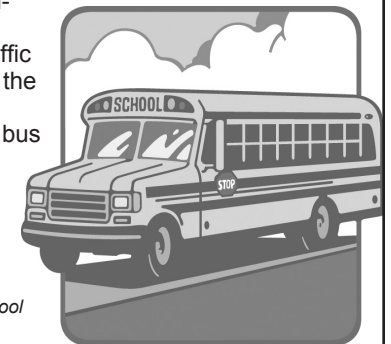
In fact, during normal school transportation hours over the past 10 years, school buses are 87 times safer than passenger cars, light trucks, and vans, according to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System at the U.S. Department of Transportation.

School buses manufactured after Jan. 1, 1977, must meet more federal motor vehicle safety standards than any other type of motor vehicles.

Tips for Safe Riding

For a Safe and Enjoyable Ride To and From School, Follow these Rules:

- Leave home early enough to arrive at your bus stop on time.
- Wait for your bus in a safe place - well off the roadway.
- Enter your bus in an orderly manner and take your seat.
- Follow the instructions of your school bus driver or bus patrol.
- Remain in your seat while your bus is in motion.
- Keep your head and arms inside the bus at all times.
- Keep aisles clear at all times.
- Remain quiet and orderly.
- Be courteous to your school bus driver and fellow passengers.
- Be alert to traffic when leaving the bus.
- Walk to your bus stop - avoid asking your parents to drive you there.



(Courtesy of PA School Bus Association)