



February Is Bus Safety Month

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NEW YORK HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parent/Guardian,

At our open house you were provided with information on the importance of utilizing the school bus service as a means of providing your child the safest form of transportation to and from school.

The facts and figures make bold statements.

- Teenagers who drive themselves to school, or ride in a vehicle driven by a teenage driver, are approximately **50 times more likely to be killed** in an accident than teens who ride the bus.
- Students who arrive to school in a car driven by an adult are **8 times as likely to be killed**.
- The safest form of transportation—the school bus—is free to eligible students yet many do**

not take advantage of the service.



It only takes one simple step to ensure that your child is being protected—I urge you to work with us and be sure that he or she rides the bus. I understand it can be both difficult and unpopular to restrict your child's driving privileges but keep in mind—the school offers a cost-free alternative to driving that is proven to save lives!



Yours In Safety,

Principal Smith
New York High School

No Shortcuts to Safety, Safety Starts With YOU! :)

From Driver to Monitor, Supervisor to Mechanic It is every one of our jobs to keep the children we transport safe. In our ever transforming fast paced world we can find ourselves in go mode. Often the need for speed leads to taking shortcuts to safety. We are all reminded that we carry "Kids NOT Kargo, People NOT Packages" and there are no shortcuts to safety. Sometimes the things we ask in the name of safety may seem redundant but there is always a party that feels that "it can never happen to me" or "I don't have to follow that I know what I am doing" With an attitude like that it may not be today it may not be tomorrow but there is always the increased reduction in safety when shortcuts are made. Please take a moment to self evaluate the procedures

you follow and ask yourself the question, is what I am doing in the best interest of public safety. Because driving is a commonality of our modern world we take this time to remind everyone that we have only been traveling this way for a little over 100 years and safety is of the utmost importance now more than ever. Please find it in yourself to increase your concern for safety and remember that even a minimal distraction can have devastating consequences. In 2011 there were 2,343 crashes involving 11,555 occupants, our purpose is to keep our number at Quality at 0. We need you as an integral part of the QBS team and your co-operation with safety and security procedures. Whether it be making a full stop at stop signs or not drinking that cup of coffee on the bus we all can take steps to eliminate safety shortcuts.

The importance of making a FULL STOP! Watch for Motorcycles!

We see it every day; here, there and everywhere; people not making complete stops at STOP signs. This is a pandemic that must end, but the change starts with you. It is reminded to you that a driver who is approaching a stop sign shall stop at the indicated "stop line." If there is no stop line, the driver must stop before entering the crosswalk. If there is no stop line or crosswalk, the driver must stop at the point where he or she



has a clear view of traffic on the roadway before entering the intersection. Drivers must make a FULL STOP; this means that the bus physically has to come to a FULL STOP with enough time to look left, right and then left again. Not only is this the law but our minds need enough time to scan the intersection to be sure that we are not missing anything. In the fast paced world of today it is easy to make mistakes when we do not follow proper procedures.

As the weather warms and some switch from 4 wheels to 2 wheels we remind you the other importance of making complete

stops, motorcycles.. Motorcycles are harder to spot than larger 4 wheeled vehicles which makes stopping all that much more important. This gets back to one of our January refresher topics of LEADING BY EXAMPLE, just because the masses are doing something does not make it correct.

Work together in co-operation with one another. :-) — Nate

What was she thinking?! Woman fired after pushing special needs student off of bus steps

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FL -

For the first time, the public is getting look at a video that shows a Hillsborough County school bus driver pushing a special needs student off the bus last fall.

On September 28, 2012, Tampa police say 42-year-old Stephanie Wilkerson got mad at the 8-year-old autistic child after the girl slapped and pushed her when Wilkerson told the girl to wait her turn getting off.

Video from a camera mounted on the bus shows the girl standing at the school bus door. Several minutes later, the video shows Wilkerson kicking the girl in the back, forcing the girl to fall, breaking her ankle. Steve Hegarty with the Hillsborough County school district said, "we have seen the video too, and if a bus driver or teacher makes contact with a student that results in an injury like that we take that very, very seriously." Wilkerson was terminated and is now facing aggravated child abuse charges.



**SIGN UP FOR THE BUS
ROADEO!!**
Saturday April 27th 2013
7:15AM
See Nate For Details

