TENNESSEE HIGHWAY PATROL

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

STATE IN-SERVICE

2019 - 2020
Dreaming of Success

Too many times our hopes and dreams are snuffed out because we did not plan our course to success. How much time should I spend planning to be successful? What will success cost? Who will help me? Where do I start? Questions such as this ring true for professionals involved in the transportation of children to and from school and extra-curricular activities. We drive big yellow school buses that everyone seems to watch. It almost seems that “everything we do” is in question. Then, reality falls to our shoulders; I am transporting a precious child, loved by many and very much irreplaceable even by today’s modern standards.

Success, for a “school bus driver” is not by “accident”. We must be at the top of our game every day. YOU are either part of the solution or a part of the problem; I would suggest that we have many more in the category of the solution!

Remember, we are the beginning and the end of every school day for all children whom depend on the school bus ride. That carries a tremendous responsibility. We are very fortunate to have so many professional school bus drivers and transportation directors who protect our children at the most vulnerable time of the school day. Let our desire be that we continue to get better each day! Our WORK is never finished and yes this includes our preparation for success.

Thank you

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Busing on the Lookout (BOTL)

School Bus Drivers
www.busingonthelookout.org
Students who have begun to accumulate frequent absences

A new or different person, likely older, dropping off or picking the student up from the bus stop or school; this person may demonstrate controlling behavior

Signs of bruises, physical trauma, or malnourishment

Inappropriate dress for the weather or school

Symptoms of anger, panic, irritability, phobia, or hyperactivity that weren’t there before

Mood swings, such as frequent crying, temper tantrums, or clingy behavior

Markings or tattoos that could be a pimp’s branding

Students who suddenly have the latest gadgets, new clothes, manicured nails, or other material possessions that a pimp may give them during a grooming process

Any acknowledgement that a student has a pimp and is making a quota
Busing on the lookout training

Human trafficking:
- Exploitation of human beings
  - Commercial sex

Tactics Traffickers use to control their victims.
- Forced labor
  1. Force
  2. Fraud
  3. Coercion

Protecting our youth school buses it’s about student’s safety:
- Frequent absences
- Signs of neglect
- Start to notice major changes in their behavior
- Un controllable anger or un controllable crying
- Or unexpected gifts
- Hunger, malnourishment
Busing on the Lookout Training

- □ Bruises/physical trauma
- □ Change in attire behavior, relationships or material possessions

What can you do?

Take extra time if it’s going to save a student

- Management
  - □ Train all employees with BOTL
  - □ Hang signs in terminals and buses
  - □ Assess company policies on third party ticket purchases and travel of minors
  - □ Donate ticket vouchers to help victims escape
  - □ Confirm school protocol on a child trafficking

- Employees
  - □ Be on the lookout for red flags
  - □ Call the hot line to report suspicions
  - □ Follow school protocol on a child trafficking (school bus drivers)
Thank you!

Make the Call, Save Lives.

1-888-3737-888 (US)
1-800-222-TIPS (Canada)
01800-5533-000 (Mexico)
Text INFO or HELP to BeFree (233733)
Driving Under Adverse Weather Conditions
for School Bus Drivers
Sumner County : May, 2017

[Image of flooded street with a bus in the water]

[Logo of Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security]
To review the process for making decisions in an adverse weather situations.

To learn when to anticipate particular kinds of weather.
Five Conditions

- Slippery roads
- Limited visibility
- Vehicle control problems
- Extreme temperatures
- Catastrophic conditions
For Each Condition

- What causes it.
- What you should know about it.
- How you should handle it.
Before You Head Out

- Conduct a CDL pre-trip inspection
- Check road and weather conditions
- Plan for the unexpected
- Remember that you aren’t in a car
- Always have an emergency plan
SLOW DOWN

This is the most important thing to remember when driving in adverse weather conditions.
Good Things to Know

- What equipment do I have that might help during bad weather and how do I use it?
- What is the right clothing?
- What is the correct way to slow down?
- How do I listen to the weather report to get the most information from it?
Equipment

- Strobe Lights
- Automatic chains
- Chains, blocks, and tighteners
- Sand release device
Layers, nothing bulky
Hat with visor
Sunglasses
Gloves with leather palms
Insulated Socks
Proper footwear
Slowing the Bus

- ABS versus non-ABS
- DRUM versus DISC
- Avoid brake fade
  1. Gear down
  2. Use the retarder
  3. Use the brakes
- Check tire tread
Non-paved wet road
• that is virtually impassable due to mud

Paved road with excessive mud
• when excessive mud is present due to poor drainage or construction sites.

How to Respond to Mud
1. Before you drive
2. On your route
3. When you are through the mud

Are there any questions about driving in mud?
Slippery Roads – Rain

How to Respond to Rain

• Before you drive
1. Check the weather report.
2. Check your tires.
3. Check that your windshield wipers are working properly.
4. Check that window defrosters are working properly.

• Before your route
1. Check your brakes.
2. Slow down gradually.
3. Avoid aggressive braking or steering.
4. Turn on your headlights, strobe lights, and 4-way flashers.
Slippery Roads – Rain

What to do if you find yourself hydroplaning

Don’t use the brakes to slow down.

- **First**, release the accelerator.
  - Newer buses with an automatic transmission won’t slow down as quickly as buses with standard transmissions when you take your foot off the accelerator.
- **Second**, correct the steering to avoid lane departure.
- **Third**, apply the brakes to get the vehicle’s speed to under hydroplane speed.
**Slippery Roads – Ice**

- **Kinds of ice**
  - **Sleet**: Raindrops that freeze into pellets before reaching the ground.
  - **Freezing rain or drizzle**: Rain falls onto a surface that is below freezing.
  - **Hail**: Irregularly formed chunks or stones of ice.
  - **Ice fog**: Fog that develops in an area where the temperature is at or below freezing.
  - **Melted water that has frozen**
Icing conditions

icing conditions include:

- **Black ice:** Black ice is clear enough that you can see the road beneath it.
- **Glazed ice:** What you would get from freezing rain or ice fog.
- **Melting ice:** Wet ice is much more slippery than ice that is not wet.
- **Frozen slush:** Snow that has started to melt and gotten very soft and then refrozen.
Slippery Roads – Snow

➢ Types of Snow
1. Snow flurries
2. Snow showers
3. Snow squalls
4. Normal snowfall
5. Lake effect snow
6. Heavy snow
7. Blowing and drifting snow
8. Blizzards
Snowy conditions

How to Respond to Snow

1. Before you drive:
   - Check the weather report.
   - Check the roads yourself.

2. On your route:
   - Turn on headlights, strobe lights, 4-way flashers.
   - Slow down gradually.
Limited Visibility

Slight

So bad you can see nothing
### Limited Visibility

**What weather circumstances can limit your visibility?**

- Fog
- Smoke
- Dust
- Snow
- Rain
- Sunlight
- *Dawn, dusk, and dark*

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Vehicle Control Problems

Handling the school bus in windy situations

- Strong winds may affect the handling of the school bus by:
  - Making it hard to steer the school bus.
  - Making it hard to keep the school bus on the road or within a travel lane on the road.

- The side of a school bus acts like a sail on a sailboat.
  - Strong winds can push the school bus sideways.
  - They can even move the school bus off the road and, in extreme conditions, tip it over.
Vehicle Control Problems

- What constitutes windy conditions that make handling difficult will vary based on:
  - The size of the bus
  - The geographic area (open plains, between hills)
  - The number of usable lanes
  - The number of other vehicles using the road
Heat

- The heat index was devised for shady, light wind conditions.
- You also have to add to the equation the school bus environment.

How to Respond to Extreme Heat

1. Call for help
2. If you don’t have a radio or cell phone, flag down assistance.
3. Open windows, door, and roof vents.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extreme Temperatures (Heat)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Evacuate the students to shade by following the correct evacuation procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. If you have air conditioning that you are running: Watch the temperature gauge to make sure the bus does not overheat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Gather water and other liquids and make a distribution plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Have students remove any extra or unnecessary clothing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Review local policy and procedures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cold
• When there are actual temperatures below freezing.
• When the low temperature and cooling effect of the wind combine to create wind chill.
• This makes cold weather seem colder.
• You also have to add to the equation the school bus environment.

How to Respond to Extreme Cold
1- Before you drive
• Be sure to warm the school bus up thoroughly to avoid stalls
Extreme Temperatures (Cold)

2- On your route
1- From time to time, exercise vigorously to keep blood circulating and to keep warm
   2- Gather your resources and make a distribution plan.
      1- Clothes
      2- Blankets
   3- When you need heat, run the engine for 10 minutes and then stop.
   4- Watch for frost bite and hypothermia and treat it.

Hypothermia
– Shivering is the first symptom. As condition worsens, disorientation, slurred speech, and drowsiness may appear.
## Catastrophic Conditions

- Occur without much warning
- Require a particular and immediate response from the school bus driver.

Other than hurricanes and volcanoes, what would constitute a catastrophic weather situation?

- **Flooding and flash floods**
- **Lightning**
- **Tornado**
- **Earthquake**
Thank you
QUESTION 1

➢ APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY FEET OF OVERHANG IS A TRAIN ON THE TRACK?
WHAT IS THE AVERAGE STOPPING DISTANCE FOR A FREIGHT TRAIN TRAVELING AT 55 MPH?
HOW MANY FEET FROM THE NEAREST TRAIN TRACK RAIL SHOULD YOU STOP YOUR SCHOOL BUS?
RAILROAD PROPERTY IS PRIVATE PROPERTY. (TRUE OR FALSE)
IF YOUR SCHOOL BUS STALLS ON THE TRAIN TRACKS WITH A TRAIN COMING, IN WHAT DIRECTION WOULD THE EVACUEES RUN?
WHEN CROSSING THE TRAIN TRACKS IT IS OK TO STOP ON THE TRACKS IF NO TRAIN IS COMING. (TRUE OR FALSE)
QUESTION 7

- IF YOU INCUR AN EMERGENCY INVOLVING AN AREA ON OR AROUND THE TRACKS, HOW WOULD NOTIFICATION BE SENT TO THE RAILROAD OPERATIONS?
THANK YOU!

School Bus Challenge!
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

TEST ANSWER SHEET

NAME ___________________________ DRIVER LICENSE NUMBER _________________
(Please print)
ADDRESS __________________________ DATE OF BIRTH _________________________
SCHOOL SYSTEM ___________________ SCHOOL SYSTEM ___________________
COUNTY IN WHICH YOU LIVE ___________ DATE OF TODAY’S CLASS ______________

I certify that the above information is correct/true.

Signature ___________________________

Choose the one best answer for each question and black out that letter on the answer sheet.

EXAMPLE

1. A □ B □ C □ D □

1. A □ B □ C □ D □
2. A □ B □ C □ D □
3. A □ B □ C □ D □
4. A □ B □ C □ D □
5. A □ B □ C □ D □
6. A □ B □ C □ D □
7. A □ B □ C □ D □
8. A □ B □ C □ D □
9. A □ B □ C □ D □
10. A □ B □ C □ D □
WE’D LIKE YOUR OPINION ...

Please take a moment and answer the following questions. You may turn this in to the instructor, or fax to Pupil Transportation at (615-253-2280).

- Is there a subject that you’d like to have covered in the class that was not discussed?

- Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the class?

Comments:
SAFETY FIRST!

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