

School Bus Safety - August 8

With the start of the new school year almost upon us, I am thrilled to reconnect with all parents, guardians, and students. Today, I want to share an important message about the safety and well-being of our students, which is a top priority for us at Bay District Schools.

Today's topic is school bus safety. Over 8,000 students rely on our school buses to travel to and from school safely each day. Ensuring their safety is a collective effort that requires our entire community's unwavering support and attention.

At Bay District Schools, we prioritize the safety and security of our students above all else. Our dedicated transportation team works tirelessly to ensure our buses are safe, well-maintained, and driven by highly trained professionals. However, we also need your help. When you see a school bus on the road, please slow down and be prepared to stop. Our buses make frequent stops, so staying alert is crucial.

When a school bus is stopped with its stop arm extended and red lights flashing, it means children are boarding or disembarking. State law requires all vehicles to stop in both directions until the bus moves again (unless there's an oversized median). Please give our buses plenty of space, as they stop frequently.

Additionally, please be extra cautious in school zones. Slow down and stay watchful for children crossing streets or riding bicycles. These zones are clearly marked with flashing yellow lights, signaling you to exercise caution and reduced speed.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our Bay District Schools transportation and safety teams, including our officers, drivers, and staff. These amazing individuals work tirelessly to ensure our students travel safely each day. A special thanks also goes out to our local law enforcement agencies. Their commitment, support, and dedication are essential in protecting our students, and they consistently partner with us to ensure safety and security.

As a community, we can create a safe environment for all our students. Let us all do our part, whether it's on the road, around bus stops, or within school zones. Collaboratively and consciously, we can make this a safe and successful school year for everyone.

While we settle into our new school routines, we all must keep safety at the forefront of our minds. I know that with our combined efforts, we can put the "A" back in Bay.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our students' safety and success. Let's make this school year a great one! Together, we are Bay District's Team of Teams, ensuring a bright and safe future for all our students.