Safety Tips

There's more to getting on and off the bus safely than putting one foot in front of the other. Follow these tips to stay safe and sound.

General Safety Tips for Students

- *Always* walk ten feet in front of the bus - *Never* behind the bus.
- *Always* stay at least five giant steps (about ten feet) away from the side of the bus while waiting for the bus or immediately after getting off.
- If you drop something, tell the bus driver - *Never* try to pick it up.

Getting On the Bus

- If you have to cross the road to get onto the school bus:
  - *Stay on the side of the road, away from traffic, until the bus stops and the driver signals to cross.*
  - *When the driver signals that it is safe to cross, you should first check for traffic. Many motorists illegally pass stopped school buses. So you (and the bus driver) must check for traffic in both directions: look left-right-left.*
  - *As you cross in front of the school bus, watch the driver. If you can see the driver, the driver can see you.*
- Board the bus using the handrail.
- Move toward the rear quickly without crowding or pushing.
- Sit down quickly.

Getting Off the Bus

- Stay seated until the bus stops.
- Do not push or play as you exit the bus.
- Use the handrails to avoid falling.
  - *Make sure that straps, drawstrings and clothing don’t get caught in the handrail or the door.*
- Look toward the rear of the bus before stepping off the bus.
  - *By looking to the rear of the bus, you can make sure that no motorists are passing on the right.*
- Move ten feet away from the bus at once.
- If you have to cross the road to get home:
  - *Stay on the side of the road away from traffic and ten feet ahead of the bus where you can see the driver's face.*
When the driver signals that it is safe to cross, cross to the outside edge of the bus and check both ways for traffic.
- If it’s clear, cross quickly.
- If it’s not clear, return to the curb.
- Once off the bus, go straight home.

Know the "Danger Zones"