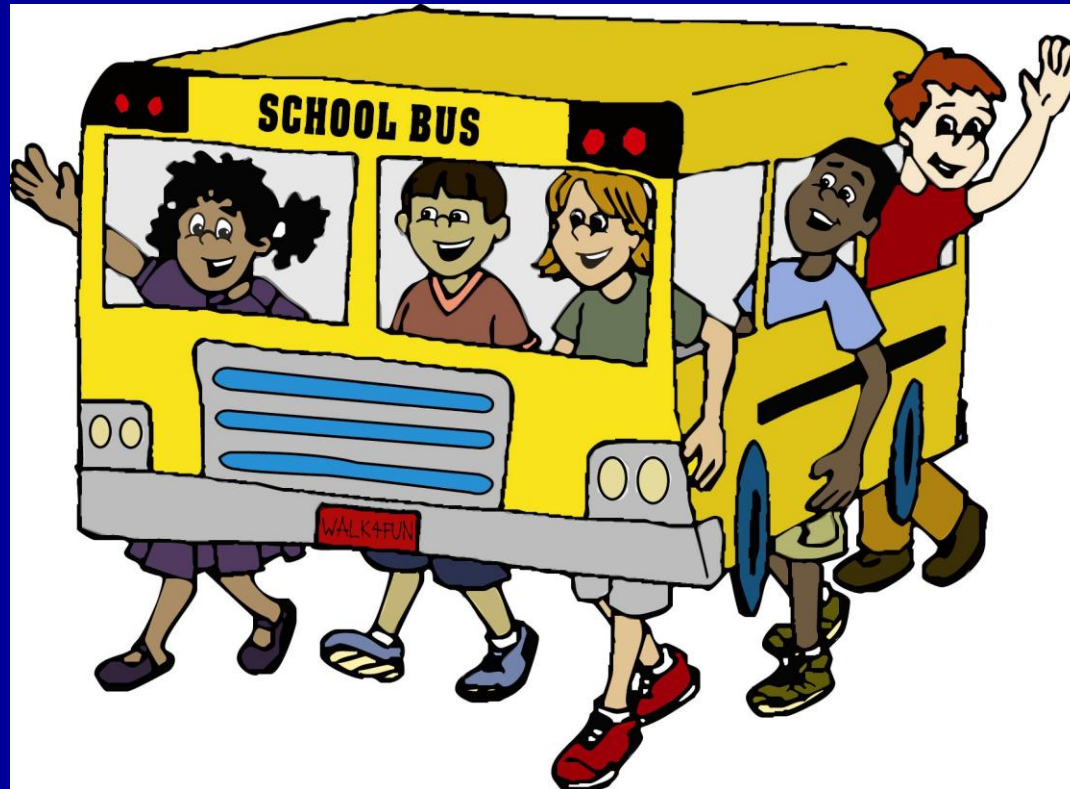


Walking School Bus Volunteer Training



Special Thanks to:



The Walking School Bus: Combining Safety, Fun, and the Walk to School

What is a Walking School Bus?



a group of
children walking
to school with one
or more adults

Benefits of a Walking School Bus

Children:



- Have fun.
- Learn pedestrian safety with adult guidance and supervision.
- Participate in physical activity as part of their day.
- Foster healthy habits that could last a lifetime.
- Learn more about their neighborhoods.
- Socialize with friends and get to know children of other ages.
- Gain a sense of independence.
- Arrive at school alert and ready to learn.

Benefits of a Walking School Bus

- **Parents**

- Meet other families.
- Have concerns addressed which may have kept them from allowing their children to walk to school (such as traffic, personal safety or distance).
- Save gas required to drive to and from school.

- **Volunteers**

- Enjoy Physical Activity.
- Meet other families
- Provide a service to the school and community.



Benefits of a Walking School Bus

Schools

- Reduce traffic congestion around schools.
- Address reduced or lack of bus service.
- Have students who arrive on time and alert.



All community members

- Travel with fewer cars on the road.
- Live with less air pollution.
- Gain a sense of community.
- Learn that walking is a viable transportation option.

General “Driver” Responsibilities

- 1. Complete the WSB "Driver" Training/Orientation and agree to a criminal background check.
- 2. By September 8, 2009, you or your partner will contact each family on your route
- 3. On your designated mornings, you will walk the designated route at the designated time, collect children at the designated Walk Stops and deliver them safely to school.
- 4. On the first morning of the program and at regular intervals, you will emphasize the importance of road safety to the children



Walking School Bus Safety Code

1. Be Visible
2. Walk, Don't Run
3. Stay on the Sidewalk
4. Walk Sensibly (No Horsing Around)
5. Walk Together as a Group
6. Cross Side Streets as a Group
7. Cross Main Streets at a Crosswalk or Intersection
8. Pay Attention to Crossing Guards and Let Them Cross You.

1. Be Visible

Walking School Bus Leader
should wear either:

- Walking School Bus T-shirt
- or
- Reflective green vest



2. Walk, Don't Run

YES



NO



3. Stay on the Sidewalk

YES



NO



4. Walk Sensibly (No Horsing Around)

YES



NO



5. Walk Together as a Group



YES



NO

6. Cross Side Streets as a Group



YES

NO



7. Cross Main Streets at a Crosswalk or Intersection



YES

NO



8. Pay attention to Crossing Guards and let them cross you



YES

NO



Consequences if a child fails to follow the safety rules:

- First Offence: Warning and phone call to parents
- Second Offence: Suspension for one week
- Third Offence: Expulsion from program



Cancellation/Absenteeism Policies:

Bad Weather: The WSB Coordinator will cancel the WSB if:

- * Temperature is below 25 degrees.
- * It is raining hard enough to wet children's clothes.
- * There is a severe weather warning in the area.

In any of these cases, the WSB Coordinator will telephone all WSB "Drivers" before 7:15 a.m. You (the WSB "Driver") will then telephone all families on your route before 7:30 a.m.

Illness or Other Conflict: If you (the scheduled WSB "Driver") are ill or otherwise unavailable:

- * Telephone your partner and try to make a trade.
- * Telephone the WSB Coordinator

Please give as much notice as possible.

Child Fails to Show Up at Walk Stop: If a child is ill or otherwise unable to walk, the child's family should call the WSB Coordinator who will then telephone you. If a child fails to show at the Walk Stop without prior notice, you will wait 2-3 minutes and then continue to school and telephone the family from the school office to inform them.

HAVE FUN!

