

# Welcome Back to School





Creating a **Safe and Respectful Environment** on Our Nation's **School Buses**

Refer to Bus Driver Handbook and  
RSS BOE Policy 8-23: Prohibition  
Against discrimination,  
Harassment and Bullying

# REMINDER OF STATE LAWS



## **BUS DRIVER REQUIRED TO WEAR SEAT BELT**

NC General Statute 20-235.2A "...each occupant of a motor vehicle manufactured with seat belts shall have a seat belt properly fastened about his or her body at all times when the vehicle is in forward motion on a street or highway in this State."

## **CELL PHONE PROHIBITED WHEN DRIVING BUS**

NC General Statute 20-137.4 "...no person shall operate a school bus on a public street or highway or public vehicular area while using a mobile telephone or any additional technology associated with a mobile telephone while the school bus is in motion."

**REPORT VIOLATIONS TO (919) 807-3580**

**This also includes Activity Buses !**

**All Buses are equipped with Two-Way Radio systems. They offer real time GPS. They will be used to contact Transportation Dept in the case of any Breakdown or Accident. Key must be on for radio to operate.**

**Drivers are not to use Radio  
while driving.**

**Instructions for Radio use  
will be given anytime during  
the School Year as needed.**

**Please call the  
Transportation Dept to  
schedule.**

**DMV School Bus and Traffic Safety  
Driver Education Program Specialist  
(DEPS) for Rowan County**

**Rich Cleary**

**Contact 704-245-6702**



# Certification/Renewal



- **Up to 6 months early**
- **CDL & certification expires on birthday**
- **Written tests waived if...**
- **Tickets**
- **FTA**
- **Medicals**
- **\*CDL mailed**
- **Pocket card @ Transportation Dept**

# DOT Medical Card

For all first time non CDL holders that are going through the 3 day class, as well as existing CDL holders that are looking to renew their license and need to get a medical card. This applies to first time or renewing your medical card holders as well.

Visit: <https://bib.com/ohs/rss>



# Certification/Renewal

- **SCHL 3 years, \$152 / \$84**
- **Any ACTY due from now on may not renew Activity Bus only – must attain SCHL cert to continue driving activity bus by attending the training as new SCHL bus driver: 3 days of class work, 3 days of road work**

# Medications

- Example of a DWI not involving alcohol
  - Driver in Yadkin County was taking prescription medication. Driving the bus and was charged with DWI.

SCHOOL BUS

EMERGENCY DOOR

17



NORTH CAROLINA  
90455-S  
PERMANENT

I Stop At  
On Red

2008/03/19

# ACTIVITY BUSES MUST HAVE PRE-TRIP



ALL DRIVERS MUST  
PERFORM PRE-TRIP  
LOOKING FOR ANY ISSUES  
THAT WOULD CAUSE AN  
UNSAFE CONDITION

A close-up photograph of the side of a yellow school bus. The image shows several horizontal rows of rivets securing the body panels. A small, rectangular, yellow panel is mounted on the side, featuring the word "DIESEL" in black capital letters. Below the text, there is a small circular hole and a small rectangular slot. The bus is parked on a gravel surface, and a shadow is cast on the ground below it.

DIESEL

**Leaks & vandalism**

2008/04/11

# Tires



Check tires

A photograph showing the undercarriage of a vehicle, likely a truck or heavy-duty car. The focus is on the suspension system, specifically a control arm or similar component that appears to be broken or severely damaged. A person's hand is visible on the right side, holding a wooden handle or tool. The vehicle's body is dark grey or black, and a yellow stripe is visible on the right side. The ground is gravelly with some grass.

Broken Suspension or Exhaust

2008/04/11



# Check for vandalism



Check after each route !

# Door/windows open easily



Check buzzer as well

**Check ALL Passenger Lights, Walking Arm  
and Stop Arm**



# LAB

Leaks

Alarm

Button Pop-out

**SPEED**

**LIMIT**

**10**

**SPEED**

**LIMIT**

**20**

**SPEED**

**LIMIT**

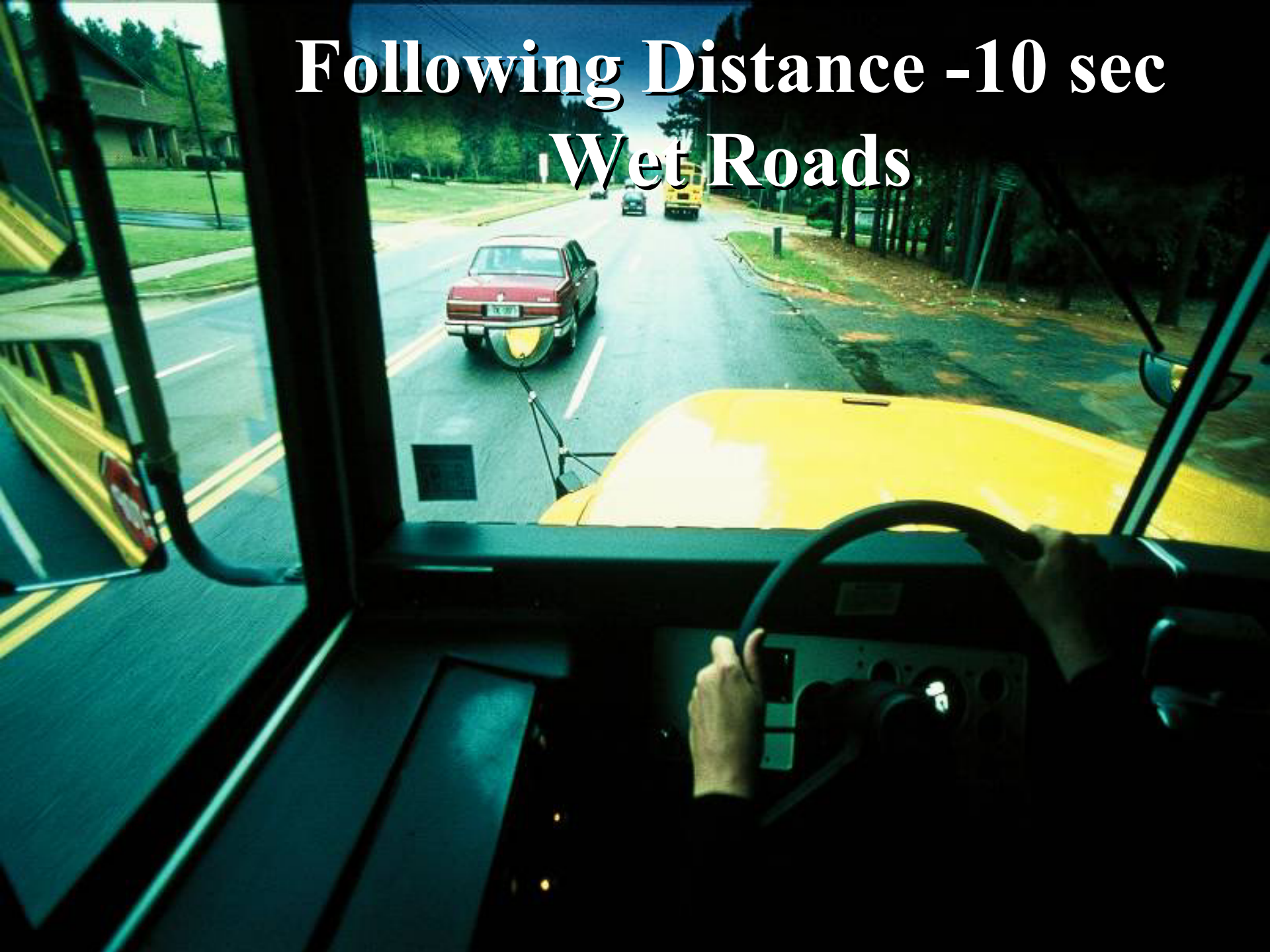
**45**

Follow Posted Speeds

# Following Distance - 5 sec



# Following Distance -10 sec Wet Roads



**Only Use Approved Turnarounds**





# Backing Hazards/Helper/Horn






Check Mirrors  
Frequently



Stay on Road

# Use caution when Backing





Your School Bus  
Passenger Stop

Consistency Makes  
the Difference

# Crossing Procedure

# Crossing Procedure FOR NC SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

## MORNING PICK-UP

- 1 Activate amber warning lights 300 feet in advance of the passenger stop.
- 2 Come to a complete stop.
- 3 Activate red lights (using middle position if there is a 3 position switch).
- 4 If students have to cross, hold left palm up to signal the students to wait.



- 5 When safe, with door open, give "thumbs up", signaling students it's okay to cross and then point in the direction they are walking to cross the street.

Make sure THEY also check for traffic.



- 6 Complete the Process:
  - Count, watch and recount students.
  - When students are safe, close the door.
  - Check all mirrors from left to right for students and traffic.
  - Proceed slowly while checking for students.

**SOUND HORN** if students are in danger

## AFTERNOON DROP-OFF

- 1 Activate amber warning lights 300 feet in advance of the passenger stop.
- 2 Come to a complete stop.
- 3 Activate red lights (using middle position if there is a 3 position switch).
- 4 With door open, remind students to look both ways while exiting the bus and to look for your signal if crossing.

- 5 If students have to cross, hold right palm up for students to wait.



- 6 When safe give "thumbs up", signaling students it's okay to cross and then point in the direction they are walking to cross the street.

Make sure THEY also check for traffic.



- 7 Complete the Process:
  - Count, watch and recount the students that have exited your bus.
  - Close door (when students are in a safe area).
  - Check all mirrors for students and traffic.
  - Proceed slowly while checking for students.

**SOUND HORN** if students are in danger

# Crossing the Street when Exiting the School Bus

## STUDENT AND PARENT INSTRUCTION

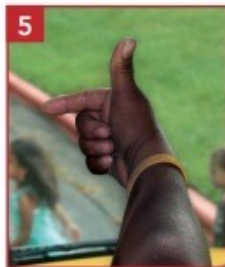
### Crossing the Highway is DANGEROUS - Cars May Not Stop!

Your life depends on the following:

- You must **LOOK BOTH WAYS** for moving cars. If a car is moving, do not step into the road.
- **PAY ATTENTION!** Take ear buds out! Don't talk or text!
- If you hear the **HORN**, look and find safety!
- **PARENTS**, even if you are crossing with your child, please follow these same steps.

For more information go to [www.ncbussafety.org/safety](http://www.ncbussafety.org/safety) or contact NC Department of Public Instruction, Transportation Services 919-807-3570.

# AFTERNOON



- 1 LOOK:** for traffic in all directions, especially to your right, before you step off the bus. Cars sometimes pass on the right side. When OK...
- 2 WALK:** away from the right front of the bus in full view of your driver, going past the extended bus crossing arm. Then stop and...
- 3 WAIT:** Your Bus Driver will be holding his right palm up for you to wait until all traffic is stopped.
- 4 STOP:** When it is OK to cross, the Driver will give you a "thumbs up" and then point in the direction you will walk to cross the street
- 5 LOOK:** for moving traffic as you promptly cross and move 12 feet off the road.





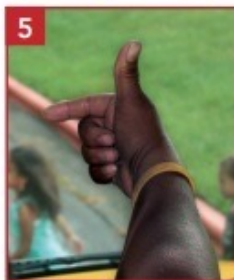
# Crossing the Street when Exiting the School Bus

## STUDENT AND PARENT INSTRUCTION

### Crossing the Highway is DANGEROUS - Cars May Not Stop!

Your life depends on the following:

- You must **LOOK BOTH WAYS** for moving cars. If a car is moving, do not step into the road.
- **PAY ATTENTION!** Take ear buds out! Don't talk or text!
- If you hear the **HORN**, look and find safety!
- **PARENTS**, even if you are crossing with your child, please follow these same steps.

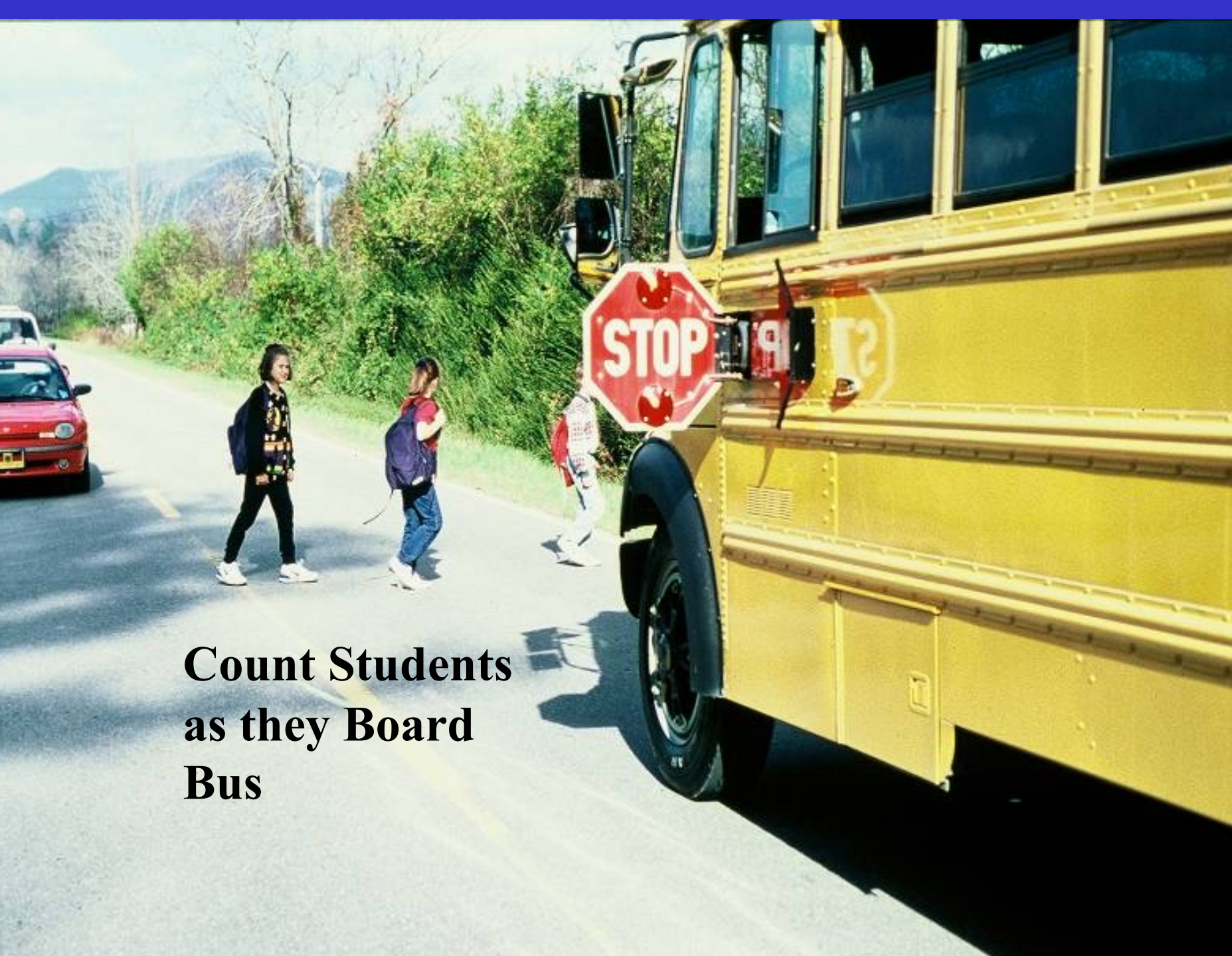


- 1 LOOK:** for traffic in all directions, especially to your right, before you step off the bus. Cars sometimes pass on the right side. When OK...
- 2 WALK:** away from the right front of the bus in full view of your driver, going past the extended bus crossing arm. Then stop and...
- 3 WAIT:** Your Bus Driver will be holding his right palm up for you to wait until all traffic is stopped.
- 4 STOP:** When it is OK to cross, the Driver will give you a "thumbs up" and then point in the direction you will walk to cross the street
- 5 LOOK:** for moving traffic as you promptly cross and move 12 feet off the road.

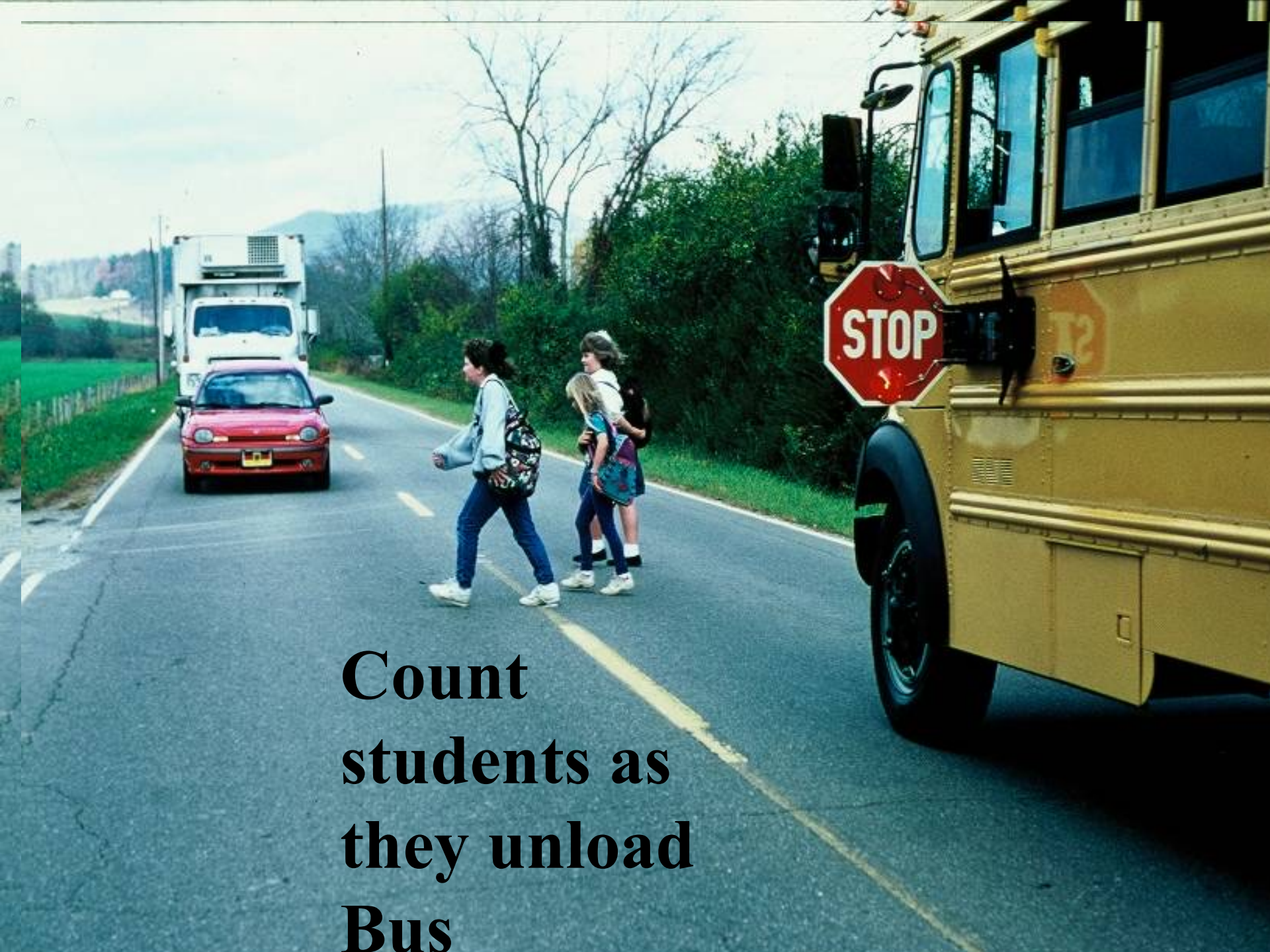
For more information go to [www.ncbussafety.org/safety](http://www.ncbussafety.org/safety) or contact NC Department of Public Instruction, Transportation Services 919-807-3570.



# AFTERNOON



**Count Students  
as they Board  
Bus**

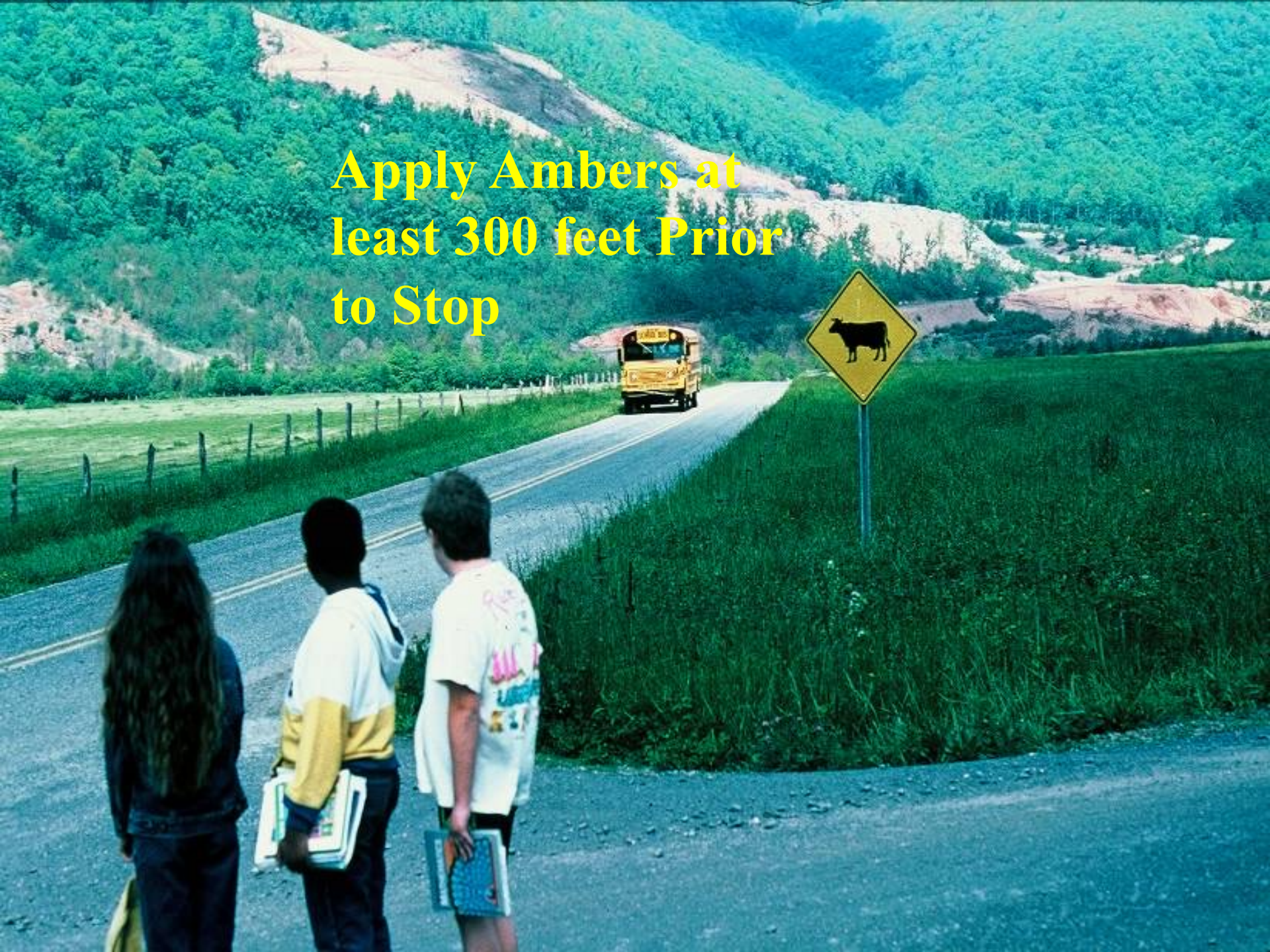


**Count  
students as  
they unload  
Bus**

**Encourage  
Students to wait  
well off Roadway**



**Apply Ambers at  
least 300 feet Prior  
to Stop**



# School bus and Activity Bus Passenger Safety

- **General Statute** – LEAs shall provide instruction in school bus safety to all children during the first five days of school and at least once during each semester thereafter.

# TEACHING SAFETY TO STUDENTS

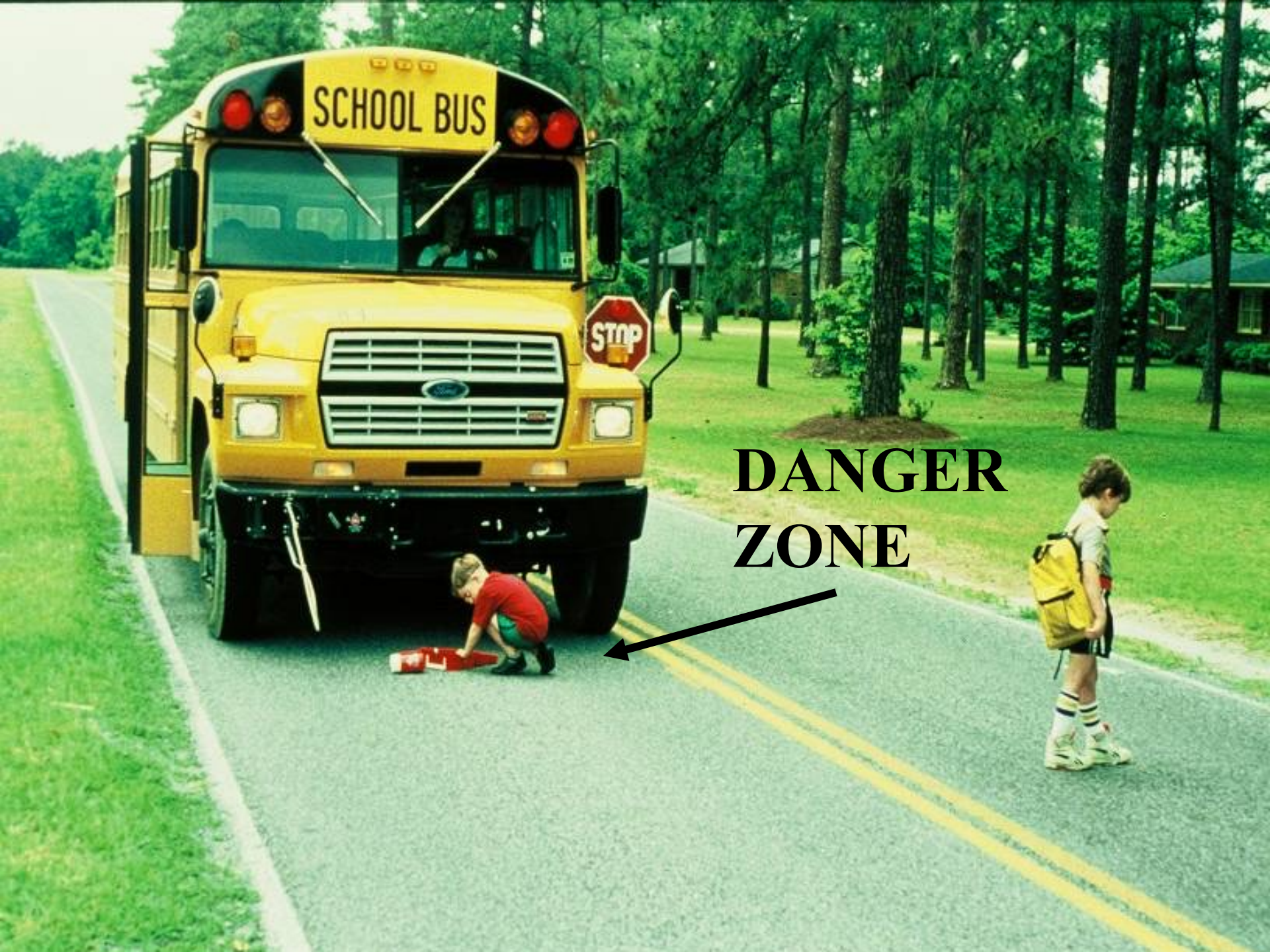


Call 639-3051 to  
schedule a program !

# DANGER ZONE







SCHOOL BUS

STOP

**DANGER  
ZONE**





# RR Crossing – behind the stop line



A photograph taken from the interior of a train cab, looking out through an open door. The view shows a grassy field in the foreground, a set of railroad tracks running parallel to the field, and a baseball field in the background. A wooden arrow-shaped marker is visible in the grass. The text "Open Door and listen for Train" is overlaid in red.

**Open Door and listen for Train**

**Watch for RxR Warnings**





**Never try to Out Run  
a Train  
Wait!**



**Allow proper distance  
and Never Park on  
tracks**

2010/03/05

**NO KEYS SHOULD BE LEFT IN IGNITION WITH DRIVER  
NOT IN SEAT OR ON PARKED BUS AT ANY TIME !!**





# SAFETY

OK to pass



# **NARROW ROADS**

**Maintain Lane**



Extreme Driving Conditions  
Use Caution

A photograph taken from the perspective of a motorcycle rider on a winding road. The road is paved and has double yellow lines down the center. There are patches of snow on the road, particularly on the right side and in the distance. The road is flanked by green grass and trees. In the background, there are houses and a utility pole. The sky is overcast. The text "BLACK ICE" is overlaid on the image in a bold, black, serif font.

**BLACK ICE**



Increase in Weather

WET ROADS

**FOG**



**GLARE FROM SUN  
OK TO WEAR SUNGLASSES**



# Inclement Weather





Road Conditions can vary from one area to another.



Expect the unexpected  
Always use extreme Caution





STOP

340

CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADDER  
86  
KEEP BACK 500 FEET

STATE TROOPER

**Use caution when  
driving in congested  
areas**





Report any Property Damage to  
the Transportation Dept

# **BUS OBSERVATIONS**

- **Route Coordinators and DMV Specialist conduct bus observations**
  - **Includes pre-trip / post-trip**
  - **Basic driving behaviors**
- **Principals/Bus Coordinators may request a bus observation be conducted.**

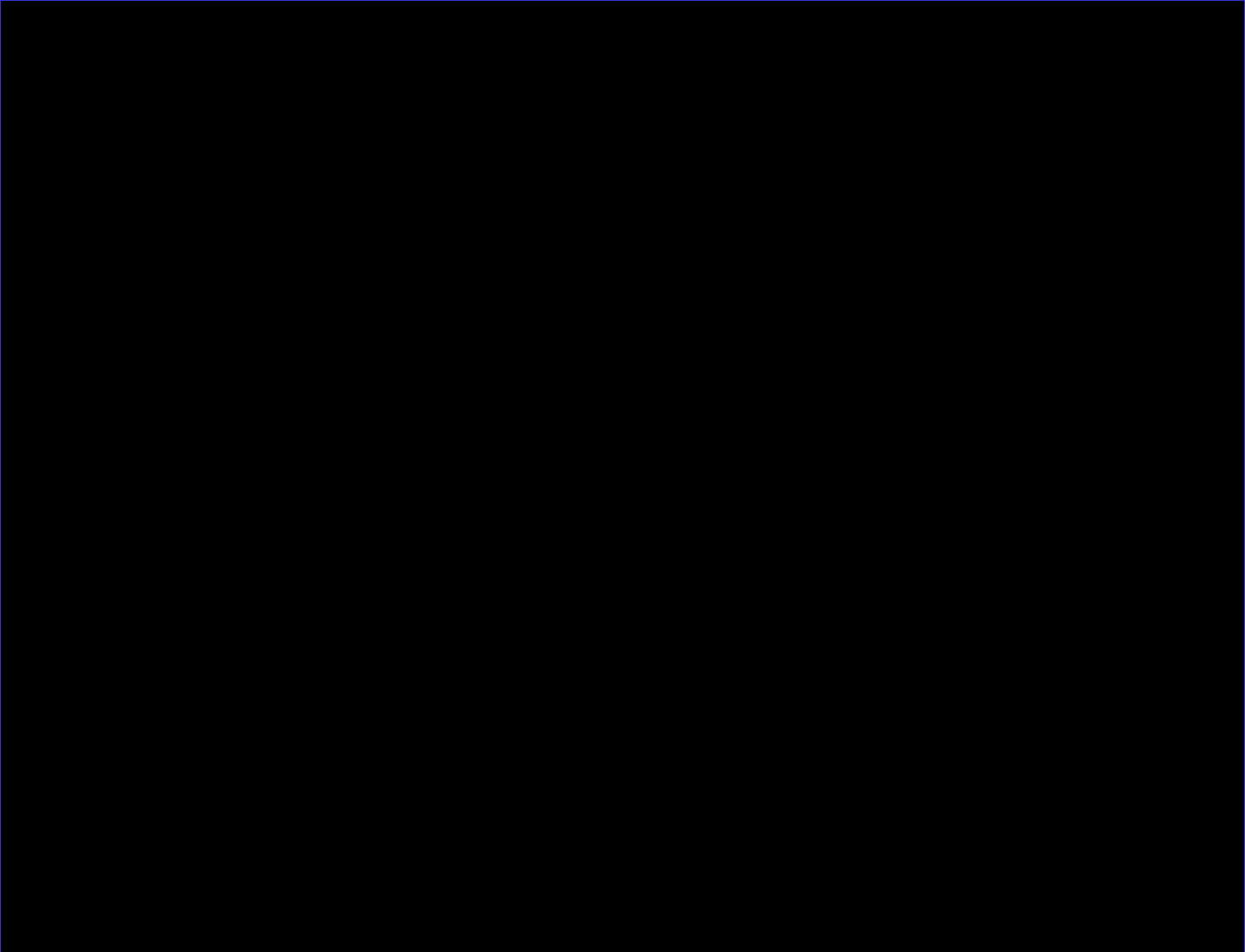
# BUS CLEANLINESS

- **Driver's responsibility**
  - If more than one driver, each driver should check for cleanliness/vandalism after their route.
  - **Bus Coordinator** should ensure before approving bus incentive.
- **Route Coordinator** will do periodic cleanliness inspections and check for updated route sheets on the bus (must be maintained for bus subs).



# **REFRESHER DRIVER TRAINING**

- **Result of accident or bus observation**
- **Developed to assist drivers with issues in driving.**
- **Has it helped? Absolutely**
  - **Decrease in bus accidents**
  - **Drivers more aware/cautious**



Next Slides are to help Drivers identify different lights when reporting to Transportation Dept. Certain Lights will not park the bus and can be repaired upon returning to school/garage. ANY Passenger Light out will park the bus until repaired

CLEARANCE  
LIGHTS

PASSENGER  
STOP LIGHTS  
(8 LIGHT  
SYSTEM)

SCHOOL BUS

HEADLIGHTS

SIGNAL  
LIGHTS

WALKING ARM

319





SCHOOL BUS

PASSENGER  
STOP LIGHTS  
(8 LIGHT  
SYSTEM)

CLEARANCE  
LIGHTS

STROBE  
LIGHT

EMERGENCY DOOR

319

SIGNAL LIGHT

BRAKE LIGHT

REVERSE LIGHT

TAIL LIGHT

REFLECTOR

we STOP at RR CROSSINGS

**CLEARANCE LIGHTS**

183



**STOP SIGN/ARM**

**SIDE SIGNAL LIGHT  
(TURN SIGNAL)**

**NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**ROWAN - SALISBURY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**REFLECTOR**

**REFLECTOR**



TD- 28D

Required to be completed by  
Driver/Bus Coordinator and sent  
to Transportation Daily!!





# Reporting problems with bus

- **You should never continue on your route with the following conditions:**
  - **Stop arm not working**
  - **Walk arm broke (not extended)**
  - **Any passenger light out**
  - **If in question, always contact the Trans. Dept.**



# ITEMS NOT ALLOWED ON BUS

- **NO Cleaning products**
- **NO Hand sanitizer that contains alcohol**
- **NO Aerosol cans**
- **NO Cup holders**
- **CANNOT alter driver seat OR seat belt in any way**



# Cont'd.....



- **NO Trash cans (use trash bags)**  
**(Reminder that each permanent driver is paid a bus incentive and for appropriate time to keep bus clean!)**
- **NO Trash bags tied to handrails**
- **All drivers were required to sign a form stating that they understood the proper parking procedures as indicated on the form.**

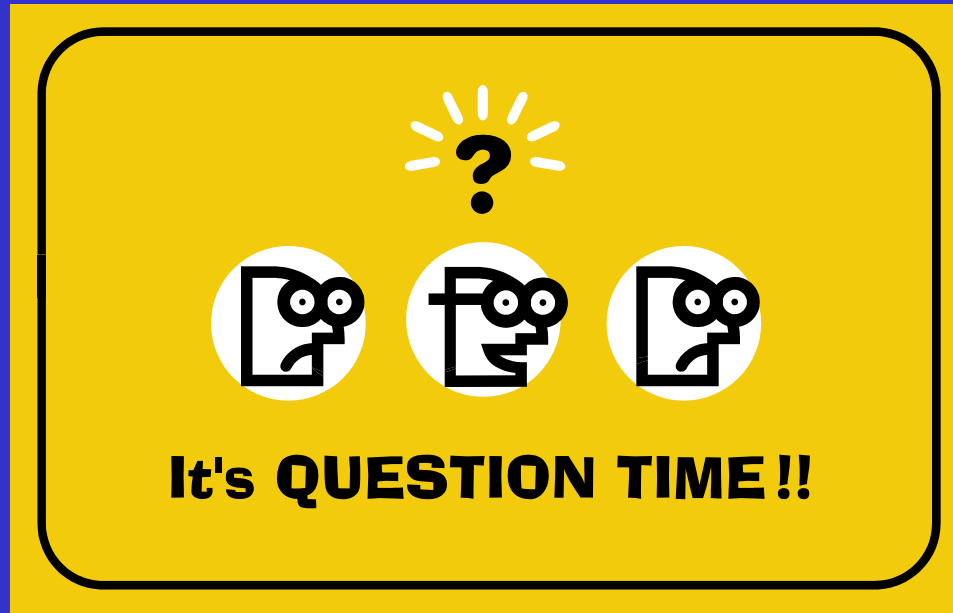
# Weekly update sheets.....

- The Bus Coordinator must ensure that the update sheets are sent in to the Route Coordinators weekly.
- We are required by the State to update the TIMS database with new students and students who have left the district or changed addresses.

# REMINDERS

- Bus Drivers should report any unsafe stops.
  - Notify Route Coordinator immediately
- **NEVER** let a bus leave the lot overloaded with students. Bus Coordinator will work out.

# QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS



THANK YOU !!

WE APPRECIATE THE JOB YOU DO  
TO ENSURE THAT OUR STUDENTS  
ARE TRANSPORTED SAFELY TO AND  
FROM SCHOOL EVERY DAY !

- HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

