

Suggested Activities for School Bus Safety Week

Alabama Department of Education
Pupil Transportation Section
Montgomery, Alabama

News and Media

Develop an article for local newspapers. Give them data about your school system transportation program such as number of buses, local policies, budget, safety record, etc.

Furnish information about school bus safety and your transportation program to local television and radio stations. Have disc jockeys on favorite student radio stations to dedicate songs to school bus drivers and other transportation personnel.

Civic Organizations

Get the city council or county commission to sign a proclamation. Get press coverage.

Contact local civic clubs and offer program speakers. Speakers could be the transportation supervisor, safety personnel, driver trainers, or even school bus drivers. Explain routing, safety programs, record system, maintenance programs, etc. You have a wealth of information available that would be of great interest to the public.

Local Businesses

Park buses at shopping centers or supermarkets with drivers available to answer questions or hand out materials about school bus safety and your transportation program. You might want put an older bus and a new bus for comparison. You may even want to display a special needs bus.

Contact local businesses and arrange for transportation displays in their windows. Student art pertaining to school bus safety might be good for this purpose.

Signs

Many banks, savings and loans, stores, malls, restaurants, and other businesses have signs in front of their establishment. Contact them about displaying a safety week message.

Student Activities

Promote contests among students on school bus safety topics. These could include art contests, essay contests, debates, etc.

Programs on school bus safety are available. Many selections can be found in the Alabama Department of Education collection. Check the department website at www.alsde.edu. Menu choices are "Sections", then "Pupil Transportation", and then "Publications".

School Bus Safety Week Suggested Activities
Continued

District Activities

Work with local PTA program committees to set a school bus safety program for some time during or just prior to School Bus Safety Week.

Hold a bus driver meeting during School Bus Safety Week. Get press coverage.

Let your community know that your transportation facilities will be open for inspection during School Bus Safety Week. Conduct brief tours.

If your facility is large enough, invite local governmental and civic groups to hold a meeting at your facility.

Publish a district transportation newsletter. Include information on school bus rules, transportation policies, pictures, safety information, and other transportation data.

Display school bus safety information and the transportation program information on classroom and hallway bulletin boards at local schools.

Sponsor driver recognition lunches at local schools. A driver recognition dinner might also be conducted and sponsored by a local service club.

Activities to recognize school bus drivers and other transportation personnel would definitely be in order during School Bus Safety Week. These could include cards and a small memento, refreshments, bulletin boards, pins, a thank you petition from students and staff at local schools, etc.