

School Bus Safety Week 2022 – How to Make The School Bus Even Safer

Travelling to and from school on the school bus is by far the safest mode of transportation for students. However, over the past five years 28 students were killed in the danger zones, an average of almost six each year. 18 of these tragedies (65%) were while crossing the street. The actions we need to take to prevent these crossing tragedies are as follows:

1. Reduce crossovers as much as you possibly can.
2. Teach the students the safe crossing procedures.
3. Inform the parents of the correct crossing procedures.
4. Make sure drivers enforce the correct crossing procedures.
5. Fit extended stop arms to make sure passing cars do stop.

So, what are the correct crossing procedures?

In The Morning

- Wait on the side of the road, at least 10 feet (5 big steps) from the edge of the roadway.
- After the bus has stopped, look at the driver.
- When the driver signals you to cross, walk to the edge of the roadway look left, right and left again and if clear, walk directly across the street. Do not run.
- If you are unsure about any moving vehicle, stay where you are and wait until that vehicle has completely stopped.

In The Afternoon

- * When you exit the bus, walk 10 feet (5 big steps) directly away from the bus.
- Turn left and walk to at least 10 feet (5 big steps) ahead of the front of the bus. If the bus has a crossing gate, you should be beyond the end of the crossing gate.
- Look at the driver, when the driver signals you to cross, walk to the edge of the bumper and stop.
- Now, look left, right and left again. If all clear, look back at the driver.
- The driver will signal you to complete the crossing. Walk directly across and do not run.



Stop at the edge of the bumper



Extended stop arm sticks out six feet

By far the best way to prevent vehicles driving past stopped school buses is to have an extended stop arm. This puts the stop sign in the face of the driver, and in many cases would hit the vehicle if they do not stop.

Reduce Crossovers

**Teach Students The Correct
Crossing Procedures &
Enforce These**

**Use Extended
Stop Arms**

For School Bus Safety week, let's share these messages with everyone involved. If we follow these recommendations, we can prevent many of the crossing tragedies.

