



PROFESSIONAL BUS DRIVER NEWS



Dade County Public Schools Transportation Department News April, 2017: Volume I, Issue I

Dade County Public Schools

Pupil Transportation

The Dade County School Pupil Transportation Department makes available school bus service for more than 2,000 students enrolled in Dade County Schools. School transportation is provided in conformance with pupil transportation policies and procedures established by the State Board of Education and the Dade County Board of Education.

The school system operates over 20 buses serving more than 24 routes and covering more than 1,250 miles daily. That's 6,250 miles per week, 25,000 miles per month and 225,000 miles per school year.

All drivers have an elementary school, middle school, and high school route. Some drivers, such as our Special Needs drivers, may serve several different schools in both their morning and afternoon routes.



Transportation's New Logo!

Route Information:

Buses shall not be routed down a street or highway that does not afford a satisfactory turnaround or is otherwise unsafe for bus travel. Buses are not to be routed on private property (this includes most mobile home parks and apartment complexes).

The Director of Transportation may make an adjustment in bus stop location, if warranted, to eliminate unsafe or hazardous conditions. School bus routes are established during the summer before school starts each year. Routes will be adjusted as needed after school begins to make the routes effective and efficient. Bus stops on the routes are not always the same as the previous year. Safety of bus riders is always our greatest concern.

Motorists should:

Watch for children at bus stops and as they get on or off the bus. Use special caution during school hours and obey school bus "Stop" arms. **Always watch for the unexpected.**

Parents should:

Review bus safety rules with your child and stress the necessity of observing them. Make sure your child is at the bus stop five minutes early. Never be late. Haste increases the chance of accident.

Remind your child to walk on the shoulder of the road on the way to the bus stop, where possible, and not on the traveled portion of the road. Remind your child to wait in a safe place, well off the road, until the bus comes to a stop. Students should not move toward the bus until the bus and all traffic have stopped. Students should stop and look before crossing the road when preparing to board or depart the bus. It is very important to look- do not expect approaching traffic to stop.

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ ***Safety of bus riders is always our greatest concern.***
- ◆ ***Review bus safety rules with your child***
- ◆ ***NEVER chase after the bus***
- ◆ ***wait in a safe place, well off the road***

The primary mission of the Dade County School Transportation department is to provide students with safe and secure transportation to and from school in a friendly environment that enhances the total learning process.



To accomplish this mission we will:

- *promote mutual respect and understanding;*
- *model courtesy with students, parents and our colleagues;*
- *help students to start and end their school day with a smile;*
- *greet all who enter our environment with a smile, encouragement, and a happy attitude;*
- *develop and improve communications with teachers, staff, parents and students;*
- *ensure that our buses function at the highest possible levels of safety, cleanliness and comfort for students and drivers;*
- *maintain professional conduct and appearance at all times for both students and the public;*
- *enhance the public's perception of the Dade County School District through excellence in transportation;*
- *initiate public safety and awareness in and for everyone we serve; promote our team spirit for excellence in all undertakings.*

S Safely transport students to and from school

A Always friendly and professional

F Focus on a positive atmosphere

E Efficiently transport students while providing safety

T Trust that students will live up to our highest expectations

Y Yes we can! is our attitude

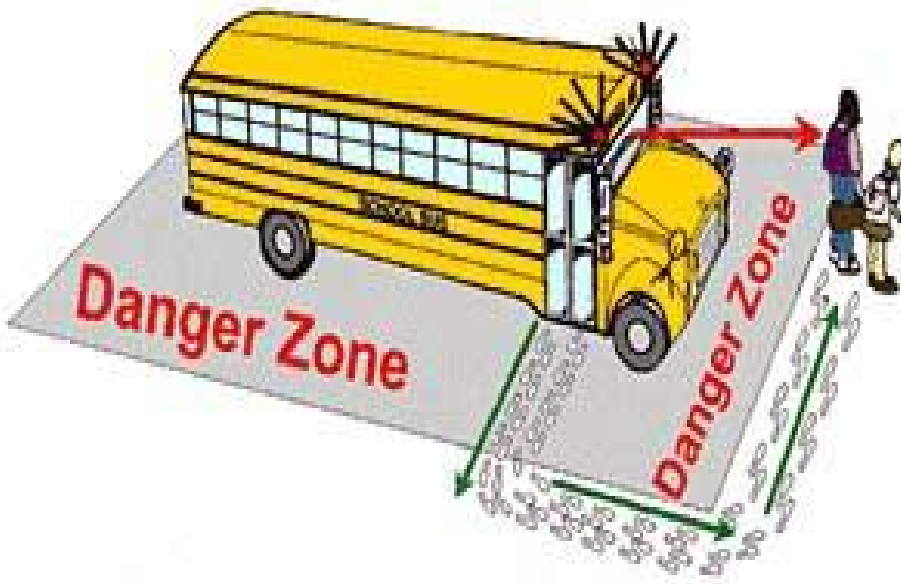


John Smith teaching professional learning at Trenton First Baptist Church, March 16th, 2017

Bus Drivers are Professionals

Rules for Students while waiting for the School Bus:

*Get up and get ready on time. Arrive at the bus stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to come. *Wait at the bus stop in a safe place, 12 feet away from the road. *Wait in an orderly group. Form an orderly line as the bus approaches, with the first student in line standing 12 feet away from traffic. *Return home and get help or phone for assistance if you miss the bus. *NEVER chase after the bus. *NEVER walk to another bus stop. *NEVER – Parents, NEVER drive your child to another bus stop! Your bus driver will not be expecting you.



The **Danger Zone** is 12 feet all the way around the school bus! 12 feet equals 6 giant steps for elementary school students.

How to Get ON the School Bus Safely If NOT Required to Cross the Road

STAY – on your side of the road, 12 feet away from traffic.

WAIT – for the bus to stop;
for the door to open;
for all traffic to stop from both directions;
for the driver's signal. When it is OK...

LOOK – for moving traffic both ways as you walk through the danger zone, directly towards the bus door and board the bus without delay.

How to Get ON the School Bus Safely If REQUIRED to Cross the Road

STAY – on your side of the road, 12 feet away from traffic.

WAIT – for the bus to stop and the stop arm to extend. Wait for your bus driver's signal to cross. When you get to the edge of the road...

STOP – and look for traffic both ways, then check again. When it is OK...

LOOK – for moving traffic both ways as you walk directly across the road.

CROSS – 12 feet in front of the bus in full view of your driver. Be careful in the danger zone and board the bus without delay.

How to EXIT the School Bus Safely If NOT Required to Cross the Road

LOOK – for moving traffic in all directions, especially from your right, before you leave the bus. Cars sometimes pass the bus on the right side. When it is OK, continue to...

LOOK – for moving traffic both ways as you promptly...

WALK - directly away from the bus 12 feet before stopping. You want your bus driver to see you leave the danger zone.

How to EXIT the School Bus Safely If REQUIRED to Cross the Road

LOOK – for moving traffic in all directions, especially to your right side. When OK...

WALK – away from the right front of the bus in full view of your driver, going past the extended bus crossing gate. Then stop and...

WAIT – for your bus driver's signal to cross. On their signal, stay 12 feet away from the bus and walk to the center of the road and...

STOP – looking both ways for moving traffic. Wait again for your driver's signal that it is OK, then continue to...

LOOK – for moving traffic as you promptly cross and exit 12 feet off the road.

Dade County Schools
Transportation Department

298 Tradition Lane
Trenton, GA 30752
Office: 706-657-7053
Fax: 706-657-2089



Dr. James Cantrell, Interim
Director of Transportation
Alan Morris, Chief Editor



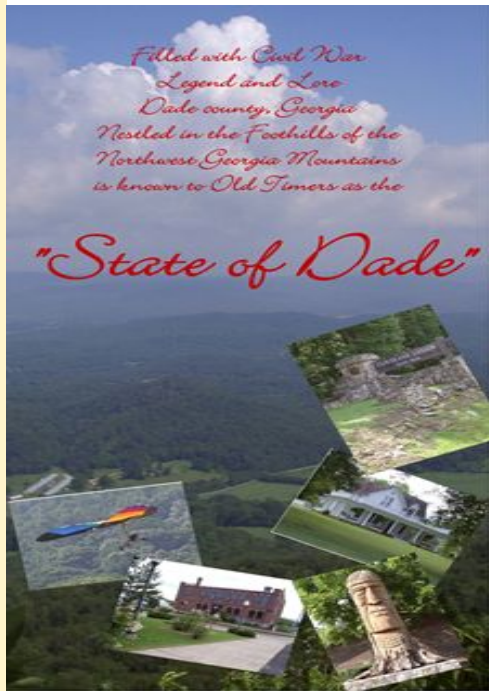
Dade County
Chamber Of Commerce

Dade County Chamber of Commerce
111 Railway Lane
Trenton, GA 30752
Phone: 706.657.4488
Email: dadecountychamberofcommerce@gmail.com

We're on the Web:

<http://transportation.dadecountyschools.org/>

Advertise HERE to support Dade County Schools Bus Driver Training!



<http://www.dadechamber.com/>
Small business or a major corporation, our schools and programs need you!

**Professional Driver Training FY 18
Schedule Announced**

Training Hosted by Dade County Commissioners
Sponsored by: Krystal's, McDonald's & Ingles

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| 1. April 20 th , 2017 | 9. April 19 th , 2018 |
| 2. August 1st, 2017 State Meeting at Catoosa | jamescantrell@dadecs.org |
| 3. September 21 st , 2017 | |
| 4. October 19 th , 2017 | |
| 5. November 16 th , 2017 | |
| 6. January 18 th , 2018 | |
| 7. February 15 th , 2018 | |
| 8. March 15 th , 2018 | |



Dr. Harris and DES student Jelleeah enjoying the afternoon at the BOE.