

# **SOCS School Bus Safety!**

As students ride the bus this year, we want to make sure that they practice good safety habits. Please follow the following rules while in and around the buses.

## **AT THE BUS STOP:**

- Always walk to the bus stop. Never run.
- Walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left facing traffic.
- Always go to the bus stop about five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- While at the bus stop, wait in a safe place away from the road. Do not run and play while waiting.
- Never speak to strangers at the bus stop and never get into the car with a stranger. Always go straight home and tell your parents if a stranger tries to talk to you or pick you up.
- If a stranger tries to grab you, run away, yell and make as much of a scene as you can to draw people's attention. When at a safe location, call 911 with as much detail about the car and person as you can give.
- Wait for the bus to arrive, watch for red flashing lights and the stop sign to be extended, and cross only when all traffic has stopped. Look left, right, and left again before crossing.

## **ON THE BUS:**

- Go directly to a seat. Remain seated and facing forward for the entire ride.
- If you talk on the bus, talk quietly (so the driver will not be distracted).
- If you need to talk to the bus driver: wait for the bus to stop, raise your hand, and call the driver's name.
- Never throw things on the bus or out the windows. Never play with the emergency exits.
- Keep the aisles clear at all times.
- If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.

## **EXIT THE BUS:**

- When getting off the bus make sure you walk (not run) three more steps away from the door. This is the best place to be around a bus. Stay away from the bus wheels and watch out for moving cars!
- Once you get off the bus, go straight home so an adult will know where you are.
- Only get on and off the bus at your designated stop. If you need to get off the bus somewhere else, you will need to have a note from your parents.
- If you leave something on the bus, never return to the bus to get it. When you get to school or home, contact the driver. The driver may not see you come back and they may begin moving the bus.

Also, if you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver before you attempt to pick it up, so they will know where you are.

Always remain 10 steps away from the bus to be out of the "Danger Zone" and where the driver can see you. Always cross the street in front of the bus. Never go behind the bus.