

DRIVER RESPONSIBILITIES

The driver's responsibilities for the safe operation of a school bus:

- All traffic laws and regulations are to be obeyed, including the use of a seat belt by the driver. Under no circumstances is the posted traffic speed limit to be exceeded. School buses should drive 5 kilometres below the posted speed limit.
- Schedules are to be maintained to the maximum degree possible as permitted by safety and other conditions.
- A driver is expected to be familiar with the route and schedule of the run he/she is working.
- A driver must not work ahead of his/her designated schedule or leave connection points before meeting the connecting buses, unless instructed to do so by the Transportation Supervisor.
- Safety, weather, road conditions and other traffic are to be considered in the matter of maintaining schedules.



DRIVER REQUIREMENTS

- Must have a valid Class 1 or Class 2 license
- Must have a clean driver's abstract
- Must have an air brake endorsement
- All drivers abstracts will be audited once a year by the Transportation Supervisor
- Drivers must notify the Transportation Supervisor if there are any driving infractions or accidents within 15 days of the event
- Will be subject to a criminal records check
- Must be physically fit so as to perform an emergency evacuation of students from a school bus

Any drivers suffering from illness or emotional stress, or taking medication which may adversely affect his/her driving ability, must report to the Transportation Supervisor as being unfit to drive a school bus.

Professional school bus drivers will have good communication skills, be dependable, reliable, patient and carry a professional attitude whenever he/she is operating a school bus.

Drivers must pick up and drop off students only where it is safe to do so, taking into account visibility to the front and rear of the bus, grade of the road and the suitability of the loading area. If a driver has concerns about the safety of a particular stop, he/she should discuss the stop with the dispatcher or the Transportation Supervisor.

Skis, ski poles, hockey sticks, etc. should be carried in the under body compartment. Sport bags, band equipment, etc. can be carried on the seats but must not extend beyond the top of the seat or into the aisle. Seat storage can only be used if room permits. Aisles and emergency exits must never be obstructed or blocked. Skates must always have guards attached or stored in sports bags.

DRIVER'S IMAGE

School buses are highly visible on our roads. Always remember that when driving a school bus, your conduct becomes a reflection of the image and reputation of School District No. 27. You have the trust of the School District, general public as well as parents/guardians and other loved ones of every student you carry. It is expected that you will perform to the best of your ability, on schedule and without incident. School District No. 27's continued success depends on each bus run and/or field trip operating smoothly and on each driver carrying out his or her responsibilities and duties safely, conscientiously and with courtesy.

Successful drivers have or develop certain personal characteristics which are usually exhibited by other successful people. Actions and conduct are the visible signs by which a person is judged. Attributes of a successful bus driver would include:

Safety – driving defensively

Dependability – always on time, follow instruction

Reliability – good attendance record

Courtesy – thinks of others first

Friendly – smile

Helpful – willing to assist

Professional – clean, neat appearance and professional attitude

Patient – understanding

Tolerant – stay calm under pressure

Sense of humour

Confidence

From time to time you may be subjected to discourteous and unfair treatment from other drivers, general public and students on the bus. As a professional school bus driver you are required to rise above it. Never retaliate. If you require assistance, the Transportation Supervisor is always available to help.