

Motorists...



Help Protect our Students

1. Learn and obey the Pennsylvania school bus laws. For detailed information visit : Meeting or overtaking school bus - 75 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 3345 at <http://www.legis.state.pa.us>.
2. Be aware of the "flashing signal light system" that school bus drivers use to alert motorists of pending actions:

Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles. Motorists should be extra alert for children and/or parents in the area.

Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate that the bus has stopped, and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again. Please be aware, that vehicles are prohibited from moving within 10 feet of a bus when the red lights are actuated. This includes the roadways surrounding our school buildings as well as our District parking.

Parents...



Educate your Child

1. Teach children to follow these common-sense practices to make school bus transportation safer.
2. Take time to review school bus safety practices.

Be Proactive

1. Take an active role in promoting school bus safety with your child.
2. Walk your child to and from the bus stop.
3. Supervise your child at the bus stop.



**Wattsburg Area School District
2019-2020**

WASD Guidelines for School Bus Safety



STUDENTS:

Walking to the Bus



1. Arrive at the bus stop about five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. While at the bus stop, wait quietly in a safe place well away from the roadway. Do not run and play while waiting.
2. Always walk on the sidewalk and **NEVER run to the bus stop**. If there is no sidewalk, walk off of the roadway on the far left side facing traffic.



Getting on the Bus

1. When the bus approaches, stand at least four giant steps (12 feet) away from the loading area and line up away from the street.
2. In order to be fully aware of the area around you, put away all electronic devices and remove headphones.
3. Before moving toward the bus, **WAIT UNTIL:**
 - ◆ The bus has come to a **complete stop**.
 - ◆ The driver has turned on the **RED LIGHTS**.
 - ◆ The driver has **opened the door**.
4. Before loading the bus, be sure to look left, right, and then left again to confirm that oncoming traffic has stopped.
5. Enter the bus in a single file line with younger students in the front. Hold the handrail while going up the stairs.

6. When entering the bus, go directly to your **assigned** seat. Remain seated and facing forward during the entire ride.
7. If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least 12 feet ahead of the bus before you cross. Be sure that the bus driver can see you, and you can see the bus driver.
8. **NEVER walk behind the bus.**
9. Always walk at least 10 steps away from the side of the bus.
10. If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the driver may not be able to see you.

Riding the Bus

1. Always follow the District Transportation guidelines as inappropriate conduct can create a dangerous bus ride.
2. Keep aisles clear at all times. Feet should be directly in front of you on the floor and book bags should be kept on your lap. Instruments or sports equipment that cannot fit on your lap are not permitted.
3. Always listen to the driver and closely follow his/her instructions.



Exiting the Bus

1. **Use the handrails** to avoid slips and falls. When exiting the bus, be careful that clothing with draw strings as well as book bags with straps are not caught in the handrails or doors.
2. **Stop** and look left, right, and then left again before crossing the street to ensure that oncoming traffic has come to a complete stop.
3. **Always** cross the street in front of the bus. Never go behind the bus. 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.
4. **Never** speak to strangers at the bus stop and never get into a car with a stranger. Always go straight home and tell your parents if a stranger tries to talk to you.
5. **Always** respect the area that surrounds all sides of the bus. The “Danger Zone” is ten feet wide on all sides of the bus. Always remain 12 steps away from the bus to be out of the “Danger Zone” and where the driver can see you.

