

CARMEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BUS SAFETY / BUS EVACUATION GUIDELINES

The School District's foremost goal is to provide your child with a quality education in a safe learning environment. The safe environment applies to the school site as well as getting to and from school.

Since your child will be riding the District's school bus, we are providing you with a packet of information reviewing rules of safety on or about the school bus. The Carmel Unified School District has placed into effect the following *Transportation Safety Plan* to meet the requirements of A.B. 1297 effective January 1, 1998, and Education Code 39813.3.

Walking to and from the Bus Stop

- Enter and exit the bus only at your designated stop
- Observe safety procedures and be alert for traffic
- Go directly home after exiting the bus. **DO NOT** talk to strangers or accept rides from strangers. Elementary students to provide written permission if going to a friend's home after school
- Be sure to cross the street only at intersections if you need to do so and only after making sure it is safe to cross.
- Talk with your parents / guardians about the safest route to take to and from the bus stop
- Leave pets at home

Proper Loading Procedure

- Be to your bus stop 5 minutes prior to departure time
- Assemble in an orderly line as the school bus approaches staying back a minimum of 10 feet
- Enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to an open seat
- Riders shall follow instructions and directions of the bus driver at all times

Proper Unloading Procedures

- Only get off the bus at your assigned bus stop. Elementary students to furnish a parental written note to driver if getting off at a different bus stop
- No blocking aisle or changing seats while other students are unloading
- Make sure you leave the bus with all personal items
- Go directly home after exiting the bus. Do not talk to or accept rides from strangers. Be alert for traffic

Proper Passenger Conduct

- Riders to remain seated while the bus is in motion. Students to stay seated until the bus comes to a full stop
- Riders should be courteous to the driver and to fellow students
- No part of the body, hands, arms or head should be put out of the window. Nothing should be thrown from the bus at anytime
- Students shall keep the bus and the area around the bus stop clean. Riders shall not damage or deface the bus or tamper with bus equipment
- Because serious safety hazards can result from loud noises or unruly behavior that distracts the driver (i.e. yelling, singing, whistling,

scuffling, throwing objects, standing or changing seats) are prohibited actions which may lead to suspension of bus riding privileges

Escorting Procedure

- Prior to departing from the bus, the driver shall ask for a show of hands of those students requiring escorting across the roadway
- Whether loading or unloading from the bus, students are to wait until the driver is in the middle of the roadway and assures it is safe to cross
- Students to cross the roadway between the front of the bus and the driver

Location and Operation of Emergency Exits

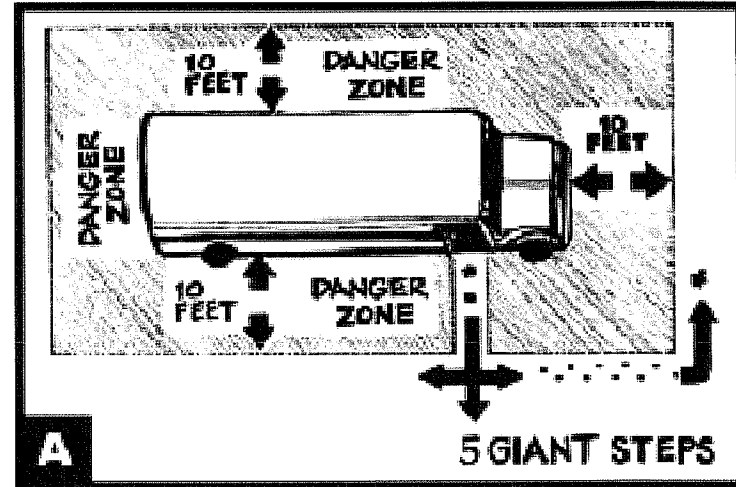
- Entrance Door: Air / Manual operation / Emergency Operation
- Roof Exits (if applicable)
- Side Door (s)
- Rear Emergency Door / Window
- Side Windows
- Kick-out Windows (Front windshield and other windows with thick black rubber sealing them)

Location of Emergency Equipment

- First Aid Kit
- Fire Extinguisher (simulate operation / aim at base of fire)
- Roadside warning Reflectors
- Location and operation of Emergency Stopping System / Ignition Key
 - A. Reassure students bus will stop gradually, only rear brakes are being applied. May steer bus to safety
 - B. After bus has stopped shut off engine
 - C. Operation of two-way radio

Bus Evacuation Procedures

- Non – Emergency---Use Front Entrance Door
- Emergency----Nearest Exit (without putting student into danger)
- Fire / Roll-over---Nearest Exit, Rear Window, or Roof Exit (Keep in mind the location of engine in Type I Bus)
- Students to assemble minimum 100 feet from vehicle



The Danger Zone is the area on all sides of the bus where children are in the most danger of being hit. Children should stay ten feet away from the bus (or as far away as they can) and never go behind it. They should take five giant steps in front of the bus before crossing, so they can be seen by the driver.