


Everything we train is to persuade drivers
to follow the practices on the left side of this poster
and to avoid the practices on the right side of the poster:



MAP – 21

System Safety Requirements

Mission

Vision

Values

Remove or Reduce Risk

Do it Right, the First Time, Everytime

No Unsafe Behaviors

Hazard Mitigation

Hazard Identification

Remove or Reduce Risk

Leave room. Always stay back at least four seconds

Look ahead

Look around

Communicate

Stay within posted speed limits

Count the kids away

Don't back the bus

Check for sleeping children

Rock & Roll for turns

Use your reference points

Drop students only at approved stops

Adjust your mirrors

Do a thorough Pre & Post Trip and only operate a safe vehicle

If late, stay late

Focus on the driving

Always stop at stop signs

Learn the students' names, smile and greet them

Courtesy is contagious

No Unsafe Behaviors

1 Never follow too closely

2 Be prepared for what is coming

3 Be prepared for what is around you

4 Make sure they know what you are going to do

5 Speeding increases risk and is an unsafe behavior

6 Know where the students are

7 If you have to, use GOAL or a spotter

8 Look and look again, do not just go through the motion

9 Overcome any blind spots

10 Always know you can safely turn

11 No unauthorized stops

12 Minimize blind spots

13 No unsafe equipment

14 Never rush to make up time

15 No distractions, no texting, no dialing

16 No rolling through stops or turns, a full stop

17 Know your students

18 Never show a bad mood or be aggressive or impolite


SCHOOL BUS SAFETY COMPANY

Professionals apply these practices every day

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY COMPANY



By the 7th of February 2020, every location training school bus drivers will have to comply with the new Federal MAP 21 requirements. These include Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT), the Trainer Provider Registry (TPR) and the Safety Management System (SMS). As you can see above, our comprehensive training course already includes the System Safety Requirements of the Safety Management System.

By early 2019. Our Driver Training Course will include every practice required under new ELDT regulations as well.



School Bus Driver

Training Program



Preventing Danger Zone Accidents

Classroom Trainer's Guide

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY COMPANY

Making Kids Safer™

Training That Changes Drivers' Behaviors

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DISCLAIMER

The School Bus Safety Company (SBSC) has created this training program to help improve the quality of training provided to your drivers with respect to avoiding danger zone accidents.

This program is comprehensive but is not exhaustive in covering every facet or scenario possible with respect to avoiding danger zone accidents. It is the responsibility of the school district or contractor to ensure that they agree with the practices being taught and that all issues are correctly trained to deliver the safe service required, in your state or province.

Further, SBSC has no involvement or control over the delivery of the training with respect to time, thoroughness, understanding and the application of the training. All these facets are under the control of the school district or contractor, not SBSC. As such, SBSC will not be liable for any actions, accidents or occurrences resulting from using this training program.

The school district or contractor should review the program and be satisfied they agree with the practices being taught and the manner they are taught. The school district or contractor is responsible for the actions and results following the use of this training course.

If the practices in your state differ from any of the practices being taught, it is the responsibility of the district or contractor to amend the training to meet your state’s requirements.

This Danger Zones training program is only one of 25 training programs from our comprehensive Driver Training Course.



The 25 Programs included in the course

Safety and defensive driving		About the driver	
1	Safety Best Practices	14	Driver Fatigue
2	LLLC Defensive Driving	15	Driver Distractions
		16	Preventing Harassment
		17	Drugs & Alcohol
About the bus		About the children	
3	Meet The Bus	18	Safe Bus Stops
4	Pre & Post Trip Inspections	19	Student Management
5	Mirror Adj & Ref points	20	Extreme Student Behavior
6	Check Your Brakes	21	Sleeping Children
		22	Power Lines
		23	Preparing Students to Learn
About driving situations		When all else fails	
7	Intersections	24	Emergency Evacuations
8	Safe Backing	25	Post Accident Procedures
9	Railroad Crossings		
10	Danger Zones	26	Final Exam
11	Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety		
12	Adverse Conditions		
13	Mountain Driving		

PRESENTING THE PROGRAM

As you present the DVD, it will guide you in the flow of subjects. The DVD will stop several times and raise questions for you to discuss as a group. Encourage the group to share their own experiences and make sure they all understand the safe practices required.

LESSONS FROM PAST DANGER ZONE FATALITIES

In the past 10 years, there have been 87 danger zone student fatalities. These were caused from:

Cause	Number	%
Crossing the street	46	53%
Front of the bus	18	20%
By the side of the bus	9	10%
Running after the bus	7	9%
Dragging by draw cords	2	2%
Other means	5	6%
Total =		87

As you can see, by far the greatest number is from students crossing the street. We should do all we can to reduce cross-overs. When we cannot reduce crossovers, we MUST make sure the students follow the correct, safe crossing procedures. The MOST IMPORTANT practice is that the students stop in line with the bumper, look left, then right, then left themselves and then at the driver for instruction to complete the crossing.

The driver gets to watch the students who cross, every time they do so, every school day. EVERY SINGLE SCHOOL DAY. Ensure they do It correctly every time.

Had the 46 students who were killed followed this practice, almost all would still be alive.

BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE

If we can persuade, train, implore the drivers to enforce the correct crossing procedures, we will reduce student fatalities. Please do all you can to persuade your drivers to do this.



MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS

- 1. Provide students with clear instructions at the start of the year.
- 2. Count the kids away - know where they are.
- 3. Enforce correct crossing procedure.
- 4. Clear your mirrors before you move.

DIRECTIONS TO THE STUDENTS

The most important step is for the driver to clearly tell the students at the start of the year about the required danger zone practices and then reinforce these points throughout the year. The practices the driver should explain are below. This table is included in the driver’s job aid.

- Explain to the students that all areas close to the bus are danger zones and they are NEVER to go into these zones, except when loading and unloading. Instruct the students to wait at least ten feet away from the curb and not to approach the bus until it comes to a complete stop and you open the door and direct them to board. No student should ever be within 10 feet of the bus except when entering or exiting.
- 1. Crossing the Street
Explain the safe crossing procedure. As you do so, demonstrate to the students the “okay” signal when it is safe to cross (and enforce it’s use). Students should then walk to the place in line with the bumper and STOP. They should look themselves, left, right and left again and if clear, look at the driver again. The driver will glance in the mirror, look ahead and give the signal to complete the crossing. Only then should the students complete the crossing while they are still looking and listening.
Students are NOT to be looking at their phones at all, as they cross, they must be watching the road.
For students who need to cross the street in the morning to board the bus, they must wait on the other side of the road, 10 feet from the road, until the bus arrives and the driver signals them it is safe to cross.
 - 2. Tell the students, NEVER, repeat NEVER pick up anything you drop near the wheels, under the bus or in front of the bus. Tell the driver and they will instruct you what to do, or the driver will pick the object, paper or money up for you. This is very important.
 - 3. Tell the students, NEVER run after the bus, this is very dangerous. NEVER bang on the side of the bus. If you are late, go home. Do not run after the bus. If the driver sees you running after the bus, they will stop, but you will NOT be allowed to board the bus – you will be sent home. There have been many fatalities caused by students running after the bus and falling under the wheels or being hit by a car as they run across the street. There is no point, you will not be allowed to board anyway. If we cannot send the student home (for example, no one is there), then principals and parents should be informed, and the student must be made aware that they are NEVER to do this again. It is too late to take action after a student loses their life.
 - 4. Tell the students, there should be NO horseplay, pushing, shoving or running when the bus is arriving, waiting or leaving.
 - 5. Tell the students to look for and remove strings hanging from jackets and backpacks. Ask parents to remove them.
 - 6. Instruct children who cross the street to walk ten steps ahead of the bus, before turning to cross.
 - 7. Instruct children to walk ten feet straight away from the bus when exiting, then they can turn in the direction they wish to go.
 - 8. Never cross behind or between buses.

CORRECT CROSSING PROCEDURE

Over the past ten years, by far the most student fatalities have been caused when the student has been crossing the street and they have been hit by a passing vehicle.

Many factors led to these tragedies, but had the student followed the correct crossing procedure, most of these would have been prevented. By implication, had the school bus driver enforced the correct crossing procedure, most of these fatalities would have been avoided.

The correct crossing procedure is as follows:

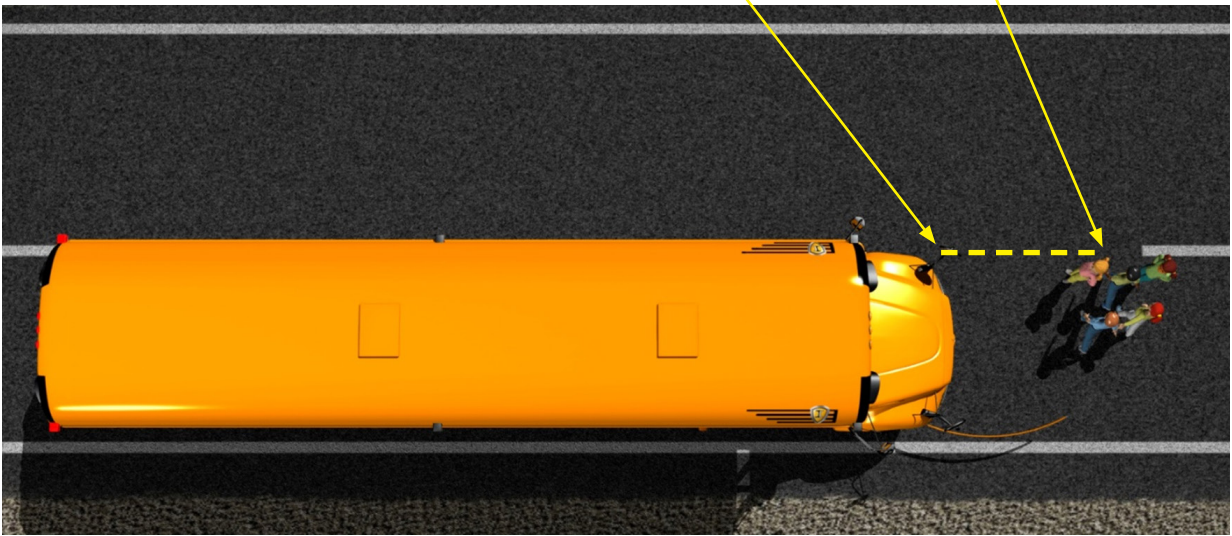
- 1. Students exit the bus and walk at least 10 feet away from the bus.
- 2. They then walk at least 10 feet forward of the bus, beyond the crossing gate if one is fitted.
- 3. Students stop on the curb and look to the driver.
- 4. The driver checks their left mirror, looks ahead and if safe, signals the students to cross.
- 5. The students walk to a line from the edge of the bus and stop. They then look left, right & left and finally at the driver again. The driver checks his left mirror again, looks ahead and if safe, gives the signal to complete the crossing.
- 6. Students complete the crossing while looking and listening and should not be looking at a cellphone.

As the driver, you get to watch the students cross every single time. Are they doing it correctly, every time? If not, you must enforce this correct safe crossing procedure.

This is really important. In the past ten years, 87 students were killed in the danger zones of school buses. 46 of these tragedies were from students crossing the street. Had these students followed the correct, safe crossing procedure, most would still be alive.

Students must stop in line with the bumper and make sure the road is clear, then look at the driver for the final signal to cross.

Students must stop here, in line with the bumper, look left, right, then left again and then at the driver for the signal to complete the crossing.



OUTCOMES

The outcome intended from this program is to prevent injuries or fatalities to students in and around the danger zones. To achieve this, the drivers need to understand all the hazards and risks, and the actions required to remove or reduce these hazards and resultant risks. When we do this, there will be no danger zone accidents and the students will be safer.

TRAINING PROGRAM

This Danger Zones training program consists of the following:

- 1. This classroom trainer’s guide.
- 2. A driver’s aid handout. This can be copied and given to each driver taking this training.
- 3. A DVD covering the following nine sections:
 - 1. INTRODUCTION
 - 2. UNDERSTANDING DANGER ZONES
 - 3. WHY STUDENTS ENTER DANGER ZONES
 - 4. CROSSING THE STREET
 - 5. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE STUDENTS
 - 6. SAFE PICK UP & DROP OFF PROCEDURES
 - 7. LEARNING FROM PAST ACCIDENTS
 - 8. RECOVERING FROM DISTRACTIONS
 - 9. REVIEW & FINAL QUIZ



AT THE START OF THE TRAINING

Before starting the DVD, explain this to the group:

Students are at the greatest risk before they board the bus and after they leave it. The danger zones are the areas around your bus where student accidents are most likely to occur. We must be particularly vigilant about these danger zone areas when loading or unloading the bus and before moving when you’ve been stopped for the students. This training program will explain the practices you need to follow to ensure there are no danger zone accidents.