

# SCHOOL BUS

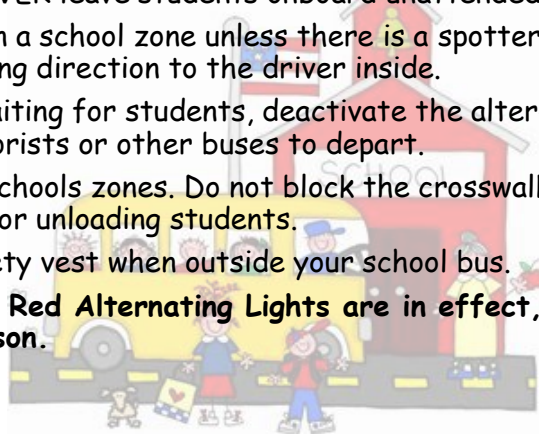
## Safety Tips for School Bus Drivers

*Loading and unloading is the most dangerous time for students and the school bus driver. Whether you are operating in the rural area, in town or at the schools, the same traffic safety laws, procedures and level of awareness apply. Traffic and school bus safety is everyone's responsibility, we must all do our part to ensure a safe environment on, off and around the school bus.*

- Drivers are required to activate the red alternating lights, wait for traffic to stop, and then signal the student across the road in front of the bus. Teach your bus students to make eye contact with you.
- Always park your bus in a safe location. Position yourself at least one meter from the sidewalk or waiting students, or park in the center of the bus lane creating a safe zone for your bus. This may also prevent motorists from passing you in the bus lane.
- Teach your students where the safe zones are for loading and unloading in the rural area or at in town stops. Assign a safe zone at school where they can wait to board their school bus.
- Direct your students to wait in the designated safe zone until you signal them it is safe to board the bus.
- Ensure students load and unload single file, in a calm manner, no pushing or shoving.
- All students riding the bus must be accounted for. If students are absent from the bus in the afternoon, drivers should check for the students whereabouts with the bus supervisor, before departing the school.
- Direct students to use crosswalks and do not allow students to cross behind the school bus. Always know where your students are before moving your bus!

**Help promote traffic safety at our schools and encourage students, parents and community stakeholders to be traffic safety smart in our school zones and bus lanes**

- When entering the school to load or unload, advance as far down the bus lane as practical ensuring other buses have sufficient room to pull in behind you.
- Do not pass other school buses in the bus lane unless absolutely necessary, please be a patient and courteous driver.
- Drivers shall turn off their bus and remove keys from the ignition if leaving the bus unattended. If you have your bus started, NEVER leave students onboard unattended.
- School bus drivers shall not reverse the bus in a school zone unless there is a spotter on the outside, at the rear of the bus, providing direction to the driver inside.
- Do not hold up traffic unnecessarily. When waiting for students, deactivate the alternating lights, move to the right and allow motorists or other buses to depart.
- Be mindful of crosswalks in the bus lane and schools zones. Do not block the crosswalk and avoid parking in these areas when loading or unloading students.
- Help us keep YOU safe, always wear your safety vest when outside your school bus.
- **Municipal Bylaw's prohibiting the use of the Red Alternating Lights are in effect, at A.H. Dakin and Evergreen Schools in Edson.**



Information in this document can be found in the School Bus Driver Safety Improvement Program (S Endorsement)



**DANGER FROM PASSING CARS**

**DANGER ZONE**

**EXTREME DANGER**

**EXTREME DANGER**

10 FEET

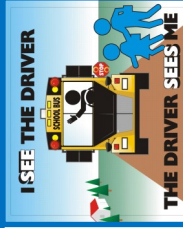
**WALKING AREA**



**Assign safe zones for students to wait**

**Be a courteous driver**

**Don't forget your safety vest!**



**Teach your students about the danger zones around the school bus**

**Never reverse your school bus in a school zone!**

**Maximum speed for school buses is 90 Km per hour**