

# School Bus SAFETY WEEK 2023



This year, October 16-20, 2023 marks National School Bus Safety Week. This nationally celebrated weeklong event is an excellent way for parents, teachers, students, school bus operators, school administrations and the entire community to get involved in promoting the importance of school bus safety. This week is not only a great time to stress the importance of safety on the bus, but it's also an opportunity to reinforce just how essential your job as school bus drivers and operators is. Below, you will find some ideas to use in your observance of School Bus Safety Week.

Here are some creative ideas that could be used for school bus contractors like yourself to celebrate the week:

- Encourage your local newspaper, radio station or TV stations to do a POSITIVE story about school bus safety.
- News reporters love facts - give them information about your district transportation such as number of buses, local policies, cost, etc. You may also want to give your local newspaper a new story that they can print during School bus Safety Week.
- Encourage local businesses to update their electronic signs with a school bus safety reminder & notice of School Bus Safety Week.
- Host a bus driver appreciation picnic & invite local media to cover the event.
- Contact local business people & arrange for transportation displays in the windows.
- Open House - let your community know your transportation facilities will be open for a tour! Children love to see where the buses go after hours.
- Some restaurants would be willing to use place mats with public service messages. Suggested topics could be: poster contest winner; school bus driver pictures; national, state & district transportation data; explanation of 8-lamp system; & a school bus safety quiz.
- Hold a driver recognition dinner for your bus drivers, aides, mechanics & staff.
- Some school districts put out newsletters each month. Consider sending some information to your school district for their publications like school bus riding rules, transportation policies, pictures & transportation data.
- Ask one of your schools if you can do a bulletin board take over to showcase the hard work of your drivers, aides, mechanics & staff.

If you are looking for more ideas, you can also visit [lovethebus.org](http://lovethebus.org). What are your plans for School Bus Safety Week? Will you implement student activities? Create community awareness with signs? Participate in School District activities? We want to hear from you! Submit your pictures and stories from National School Bus Safety Week to [office@paschoolbus.org](mailto:office@paschoolbus.org) and we will feature your ideas in next month's newsletter or on our Facebook page. Feel free to send us pictures or share your favorite memories from year's past as well!