



Pennsylvania School Bus Association
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October 16, 2023

Dear Editor,

During the week of October 16th, Pennsylvania joins the nation in celebration of National School Bus Safety Week. The theme for this year's School Bus Safety Week is, **"Safely Rolling to my Destination"** which reminds all of us of that the Yellow Bus is transporting our Commonwealth's future leaders.

PennDOT's **Operation Safe Stop** will commence on October 18th. This is an opportunity to remind all drivers to be cautious of Yellow Buses when they are stopping. Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, **and all children have reached safety.**

Each year, statistics prove that school buses remain the safest form of student transportation. Numerous elements contribute to maintaining this impressive safety record. Modern school buses are equipped with safeguarded seating, adhere to rigorous crash standards, incorporate rollover protection mechanisms, significantly decreased emissions and are intentionally designed for enhanced visibility. These buses exhibit heightened durability, cleanliness, safety, and have daily maintenance.

Most importantly when dealing with safety standards we must recognize our drivers. Our greatest safety standard are the vigorous training, and deep level of commitment of our bus drivers. They are committed to upholding the highest standard of safety. We often refer to our drivers as modern day superheroes.

These "safety heroes" transport approximately 1.5 million students each day, traveling over 400 million miles a year in the Commonwealth! The school day starts when a student gets on the bus and doesn't end until they are safely dropped off at the end of the day. Our drivers are an integral part in our student's education.

During this School Bus Safety Week, on behalf of the members of PSBA, we salute and say "thank you" to our school bus drivers and all the members of the school transportation teams for keeping our children safe each and every day.

Sincerely,

Shawn McGlinchey

Shawn McGlinchey
President
Pennsylvania School Bus Association

About PSBA: The Pennsylvania School Bus Association (PSBA) is an organization comprised of close to 300 school bus operators from across the state. Our mission is to provide our members with programs, education, and services that foster the highest degree of safety and strengthen the quality of student transportation.