

# MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM



## Back to School and School Bus Safety



### Back to School Safety Tips

As summer draws to a close, back-to-school season is in full effect. Safety should be a priority for every family as children return to classrooms. It is important for parents to stay up-to-date on the proper safety precautions and share this information with their children to keep them safe throughout the school year.

#### All Motorists:

- Slow down.
- Watch while driving on neighborhood streets and around school zones, always expect the unexpected.
- Be alert for children walking to and from school as you back out of your driveway or leave your parking garage.
- Watch for children on bicycles, especially at intersections and driveways. Young bicyclists have a tendency to dart out into traffic without looking.
- Stop your car when you see lights flashing on a school bus. Red flashing lights indicate that the bus is stopped and students are getting on or off.
- Do not start driving until the red lights stop flashing. Be aware that a child may dash across the street.
- STOP, when you approach a school bus picking up a child, it is the law. When the flashing lights come on and the red stop sign extends that means STOP.



#### Drivers:

- Obey all signs, safety patrol and officers. They are there to make the drop-offs and pick ups run smoother and safe.
- Ensure that your child is in their safety seat or restrained properly when you are taking them to school. Every person in the vehicle must buckle up.
- Pay extra attention at crosswalks. Take an extra look to be sure that no students are crossing.
- Drop children off as close to school as possible. Avoid the need for children to cross the street.
- Follow all posted speed limit signs.



### Students Reported Back to School:

- ♦ Worth County - Jul 29
- ♦ Sumter County – Aug 04
- ♦ Dougherty County - Aug 04
- ♦ Mitchell County - Aug 01
- ♦ Tift County - Aug 07
- ♦ Colquitt County - Aug 07
- ♦ Lee County - Aug 08

### School Bus Safety Tips

- **BE EARLY:** Be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives.
- **GIANT STEPS:** Take 10 giant steps backward when you see the bus approaching.
- **WAIT:** Before entering and exiting the bus, wait for the driver to say it's **OK** to get on or off.
- **CHECK STRAPS:** Make sure before entering and exiting that items with straps are secure and can't get caught on handrails or in doors.
- **NEVER:** Never walk behind the school bus.
- **ASK FOR ASSISTANCE:** If you drop something near or under the bus, don't try to get it. Ask the bus driver for assistance.
- **STAY SEATED:** Stay in your seat at all times and keep body parts and items inside the bus while riding.



Visit [http://www.nsc.org/safety\\_home/SafetyObservances/Pages/BackToSchoolSafety.aspx](http://www.nsc.org/safety_home/SafetyObservances/Pages/BackToSchoolSafety.aspx) for more information about back to School and School Bus Safety.

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