

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL

One Tingley Lane • Edison, NJ 08820

TRANSPORTATION OFFICE

BUS SAFETY

Bus Safety is a team effort of the bus driver, student, the motoring public, and parents. If you have bus safety concerns, call the School Transportation Office at 732-549-1108, ext. 628.

- Most injuries involving school buses occur outside the bus and by the student's own bus.
- Even though there are mirrors, the driver can't see people close to the bus. Because the bus is so big, car drivers can't see them either. Anyone inside the 'Danger Zone' is in jeopardy! Do your part to make sure everyone gets on and off the bus safely.
- Always stay out of the school bus danger zones.
- Use the "ten-foot rule" if you must cross the street when getting on or off the bus.
- Always stay in your seat on the bus unless you are getting off the bus and the bus is fully stopped.
- Know how to evacuate the bus in an emergency.

ROLE OF THE STUDENT

Safety aboard the bus begins with the student. Certain basic rules of conduct combined with the use of common sense are a must to assure a safe ride on the bus. Students should be aware of all safety rules including those posted inside the bus. Please take time to read the following rules and follow them.

Don't lose your riding privilege! Follow these rules:

- Observe same conduct as in the classroom.
- Be outside and on time (10 minutes prior to the scheduled time) at your bus stop).
- Be courteous, use no inappropriate language.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus (this includes chewing gum)
- Keep the bus clean.
- Cooperate with the driver.
- Do not be destructive.
- Stay in your seat.
- Keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus (and to yourself)
- Bus driver is authorized to assign seats

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Additionally:

- Musical instruments are permitted on the bus as long as they can be securely held on the student's lap.
- Book bags should not be worn on the back while riding on the bus so that the students sit with their backs against the seat.
- Written permission must be obtained from the school office before riding a different bus or getting off at a different stop due to emergency situations.
- New Jersey State law and the need for safety make it necessary to restrict the size of objects (i.e., musical instruments) that can be transported on the bus. Please check with the main office before bringing such objects on the bus.

ROLE OF THE PARENT/GUARDIAN

Parents and guardians are an important part of the smooth operation of the Saint Thomas Aquinas High School Transportation System. You can help promote and maintain safety in many ways. Here are just a few:

- Have your student(s) waiting outside and on time (10 minute prior to the scheduled time) at the bus stop.
- Help teach your student(s) the importance of good behavior aboard the bus.
- Go over the rules and responsibilities of riding the bus with your student(s).
- Ensure that your student(s) are on time in the morning.
- Work on reducing the number of loose items your student(s) bring on the bus. New Jersey State safety regulations prohibit the transporting of large objects on the bus. These items should be brought to school in a car. Contact the school or the Transportation Department if you have any questions about specific items.
- Be sure your student(s) knows the rules and understands the consequences of breaking them. Information given out in the schools contain a more detailed listing of bus discipline procedures. Please take the time to read those procedures.
- Instruct students not to get off the bus unless it is their stop. If the driver misses their stop, child should notify driver and they will be returned to designated bus stop as soon as possible. This also applies if the student is on wrong bus.