

# THE BUS STOPS HERE



*Safety Newsletter*

February 11, 2022



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC

SUFFOLK BUS CORP.



**LOVE THE BUS:** February is Love the Bus Month! The month-long event celebrates the importance and role of school bus staff in education and gives thanks for safely and compassionately transporting children to and from school every day. School bus drivers and driver assistants safely transport more than 25 million children across the country to and from school every day. We also extend Love the Bus Month to our Para-transit and line drivers. Approximately 150,000 Suffolk County residents ride a public bus each month. It is the dedication and reliability of our SBC employees that ensure they reach their destination safely. And of course, the LOVE starts in our Shop. The expertise of our mechanics ensures the buses are road ready.

**ATTENTION ALL DA's:** If you are a DA that has not taken the required NYS 10-hour Basic Course, you will be contacted by mail to attend both required classes on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at either the Saxon, Pond Rd, or Coram classroom from 8am to 2pm. This is a one-time course required for all DA's by the New York State Education Department. When you receive the letter, please respond to Linda Licata at [llicata@suffolkbus.com](mailto:llicata@suffolkbus.com) or 631-665-3245 X4163 to acknowledge your attendance and which classroom you would like to attend. Call early to get the classroom you prefer!

**PRAISING YOUR RIDERS:** The proper use of praise can be a very effective strategy to encourage children to make positive choices while on your bus. When praising, always be sincere. Children always know when adults don't mean what they say. Be specific by telling your riders exactly what they are doing that shows cooperation, so they are more likely to engage in that same behavior again. Saying statements such as a "Good job" does not tell your riders exactly what they are doing that you approve of. However, if you say, "You stayed calm even when the bus was noisy" it tells them exactly what they did that showed they were a team player. By being specific, your riders can visualize what they did and will be more likely to do it again in the future. This was submitted by Lisa Navarra, MS Ed. Special Education.



**HANDICAPPED PARKING:** Each of our yards has limited parking for employees with a handicap permit. Please do not use these parking spots unless you have a valid permit that is for you, not a family member. Let's be courteous of our fellow employees and leave these spots open for those that are in need.



**REFRESHER SCHEDULE:** The winter refresher class schedule is on My Parking Space. Each class is 2.5 hours. Please be sure to register early as classes fill up quickly. Log into MPS, click on "My Classes", click on "Upcoming" to sign up for the class that fits your schedule.

**SNOW DAYS:** If your district is closed due to inclement weather, no students from your district will be transported that day, even if they attend a school in a district that is open. Please understand that the rules may change depending on the number of snow days the district has used for the school year. When in doubt, contact your supervisor or

dispatcher.



**FACEBOOK:** This week's spotlight is Donna Brown, van driver for Central Islip School District out of 1849 Pond Rd.

*"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart."*

*Happy Valentine's Day*