

THE BUS STOPS HERE



Safety Newsletter

September 13, 2024



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC

SUFFOLK BUS CORP.

SLEEPING CHILDREN/UNATTENDED CHILD: In the beginning of the school year many children are getting used to a new routine and may fall asleep on the bus. It is critical that you follow our safety policy for checking for sleeping children (**SSPP Section 19.02, 19.03, 19.04**). Before and after each and every time you move your vehicle, you must check the entire vehicle for sleeping/unattended children, especially, without limitation, under every seat. If you fail to perform this check, you will be subject to disciplinary action. If a child is left on your vehicle, or if a child that requires an authorized adult - parent, guardian, school or facility personnel - to accept the child and is not present when dropping off a child, and you neglect this requirement, your employment will be terminated. This is a zero-tolerance policy, and no excuses are accepted, and no exceptions are made. If your route requires a driver assistant, you and the driver assistant must check the vehicle for sleeping/unattended children, especially, without limitation, under every seat.



PRE-TRIP INSPECTION VIDEO: School buses are responsible for transporting children, and their safety is of utmost importance. A thorough pre-trip inspection ensures that the vehicle is in good working condition, reducing the risk of accidents due to mechanical failures. Federal and State regulations mandate commercial drivers, including school bus drivers, perform pre/post-trip inspections. Please visit suffolkbuss.com and click on 'Safety' for a drop-down menu to access our pre-trip inspection video which will instruct the proper procedure.



FOOTBALL SEASON IS NOT A REASON TO TAILGATE: Almost 10% of all accidents are caused by following too closely. Drivers often say the car in front stopped short. As professional drivers, it is up to you to drive defensively. To avoid rear-end accidents, always follow the 4-second rule for commercial vehicles (2 second for personal vehicles). If you are driving on a normal road in good weather conditions, there should be at least a 4-second buffer between your bus and the vehicle in front of you. Here is how to calculate your distances: pay attention to the vehicle in front of you as the driver passes a fixed point such as a mile marker or a signpost. Once the vehicle passes that point, count until you pass that same point ("one thousand and one, one thousand and two"). Should you reach that point before counting to 4 seconds, then you know you are following too closely. Slow down and try the test again with a new point.

CDL PERMIT CLASS: Our CDL Permit Class is a great opportunity for our DAs, our families, and friends to learn more about our great Company. Our next two CDL permit classes will be held as follows:

CDL PREP™



Saturday, September 14, 8:00AM - 4:00 PM at 1780 Smithtown Ave, Ronkonkoma

Wednesday, September 18, 10:00AM - 1:00 PM at 1780 Smithtown Ave, Ronkonkoma

The classes are free, and everyone is welcome. To register, please email Karen Sheehan ksheehan@suffolkbuss.com and include your first and last name as well as your contact number. Remember, for a limited time we offer a \$1,000 bounty for every driver referral and you will receive the referral bonus 60 days after they are assigned a bus route.

HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT: It's time for our health insurance open enrollment! This is for new enrollees only. If you are interested in signing up for the Company health insurance or would like more information, please email benefits@suffolkbuss.com. Enrollment period for applications ends on 9/20/24. Benefits will begin on 10/1/24.



FACEBOOK: This week's spotlight is Amanda Rozenburgh, North Babylon large bus supervisor & road supervisor out of 31 Moffitt Blvd.

"Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after the other."