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SCHOOL BUS BASICS

Broomfield, CO— It's back to school time! Parents are rejoicing and kids are feeling a bit sad, but as we conduct our back to school preparations North Metro Fire Rescue hopes you keep "SAFETY" on the list. If your child takes the bus to school, how they travel to and from school makes a difference for their safety.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), twenty three million students nationwide take the school bus each day. The greatest risk for injury is not riding on the school bus, but approaching or leaving the bus. If your child will ride the bus this upcoming school year, review these traffic safety rules with them before your child heads back to school.

The School Bus & You

- Get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- When the bus approaches, stand at least three giant steps (6 feet) away from the curb, and line up away from the street.
- Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, the door opens, and the driver says it's okay before stepping off the curb and onto the bus.

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- If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least five giant steps (10 feet) ahead of the bus before you cross. Check to see no other traffic is coming before you cross. And, be sure that the bus driver can see you and you can see the bus driver.
- Use the handrails when entering or exiting the bus to avoid falling. Watch clothing with drawstrings and book bags with straps – so they don't get caught in the handrails or doors.
- Never walk behind the bus.
- Walk at least three giant steps away from the side of the bus.
- If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver. Never try to pick it up because the bus driver may not be able to see you and begin to move.

In addition to emphasizing the rules on how to approach and leave the school bus, help your child's driver deliver the safest trip to and from school. Poor behavior by passengers can bother any driver, so it is important that all children try to be on their best behavior. Please ask your child to sit quietly in a seat, speak quietly to the other children near him, and not to jump up and down, fight, or tease other passengers. These activities can distract your bus driver and reduce his ability to give proper attention to driving.

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About North Metro Fire Rescue District

North Metro Fire Rescue is dedicated to your quality care. North Metro Fire Rescue provides fire protection, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response and rescue services to our community. Formed in 1946, the district now covers 63 square miles with a population of approximately 103,000 people including the City and County of Broomfield, the City of Northglenn and unincorporated areas of Boulder, Adams and Jefferson Counties.