

## RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS

### DID YOU KNOW...?

That approximately 1000 students in the Gulf Islands ride the school buses every day. Over the years our buses have maintained an outstanding safety record. Each year they drive over 160,000 kms without injury and each day drive over 1,000 kms carrying pupils to and from schools.

We are asking for your co-operation and your child's in continuing to operate the buses in a safe and efficient manner.

We're sure you can imagine the responsibility one adult has in operating a big bus on a highway, observing all the driving regulations, and at the same time, supervising anywhere from 1 to 84 active youngsters all sitting behind. The responsibility is tremendous.

For the safety of your child, please ask him/her to observe the school bus rules.

### RULES FOR RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS

1. Always obey the school bus driver.
2. Get to your pickup spot 5 minutes early.
3. Wait until the school bus stops and the door opens before approaching the school bus to enter.
4. Get seated quickly and stay seated.
5. Keep the aisle clear.
6. When leaving the school bus, don't stand up until the school bus comes to a COMPLETE STOP and the door is open.
7. After leaving the school bus, always stay where the school bus driver can see you.

## SIMPLE RULES FOR SAFETY

1. Be at the school bus stop 5 minutes before scheduled pickup time.
2. Wait for the school bus in a safe place well back from traffic and facing oncoming vehicles.
3. Wait until the school bus stops and the door opens before approaching the school bus.
4. Enter the school bus single file using the hand rail — don't push.
5. WALK — don't run down the aisle.
6. Get seated and stay seated.
7. Face the front of the school bus.
8. NO EATING ON THE SCHOOL BUS.
9. Never throw things on the school bus or out the window.
10. Keep the aisle clear.
11. Talk "QUIETLY" - Noise is the Greatest Safety Hazard.
12. Keep HEAD, arms, and legs away from open windows.
13. Don't stand up until bus comes to a COMPLETE STOP and door opens.
14. Leave the school bus carefully using the hand rail.
15. Walk away from the school bus making sure the driver can see you.
16. If crossing, walk 10 steps forward. Stop and look both ways.
17. Stay out of the school bus danger zone (3 meters).
18. Never walk between two buses in a school yard.
19. No live animals on the school bus.
20. Always obey the school bus driver.

## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

The School Board has the following district policies on transportation of pupils.

•••

The Gulf Islands School District will provide school bus transportation for grades 1 to 3 who live at least 4.0 km from the school they attend, and for grades 4 to 12 the minimum mileage is 4.8 km.

•••

Students be at their designated stops five (5) minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus.

•••

The schedules established annually are subject to change if circumstances require. All times are approximate and subject to adjustment as needed.

NO EATING on school buses.

Kindergarten and Grade 1 students require a parent/guardian or older sibling to be at the school bus drop-off location to ensure safe arrival at home, otherwise the student will be transported back to School District Plant Services Office until safe pickup can be arranged.

*To find out if buses are running,  
in case of **adverse weather conditions***

**690 AM CBC RADIO 1 Vancouver**  
**90.5 FM CBC RADIO 1 Victoria**  
**89.7 FM CJSU Duncan**  
**A-CHANNEL TV Victoria**  
**or**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT 64 WEB SITE**  
**[www.sd64.bc.ca](http://www.sd64.bc.ca)**

## NOTICE TO THE MOTORIST

Every province in Canada has a law requiring motorists, travelling in both directions, to stop when approaching a school bus displaying flashing red lights. Even so, many motorists either don't know this law or they do not care about it, or, they are so completely unaware of what is happening around them that they simply do not see the bus with signals flashing.

Students know this law exists and it gives them a sense of security when crossing the street going to or from a school bus. Students expect motorists to stop.

A defensive driver keeps up with changing laws and obeys them. The Canada Safety Council appeals to drivers to drive defensively.

### PLEASE REMEMBER

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO PASS  
A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS WITH  
FLASHING RED LIGHTS

## NOTICE TO PARENTS

If your child brings home a report from the School Principal concerning conduct on the bus, please discuss the situation with him or her. Any questions you may have concerning the report can be answered by your School Principal.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## SCHOOL BUS VIDEO TAPING

There are video cameras on our school buses for the purpose of promoting bus safety and discipline.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For information concerning buses and bus routes, you may call the Principal of your child's school, or

Transportation Department  
Phone: 250-537-5723

Email: [transportation@sd64.org](mailto:transportation@sd64.org)  
or School District 64 website:  
[www.sd64.bc.ca](http://www.sd64.bc.ca)

go to DISTRICT and down to TRANSPORTATION



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64  
(GULF ISLANDS)



# ALL ABOUT SCHOOL BUSES