Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment on Our Nation’s School Buses

Stop Bullying: See Something, Do Something

Intervene

- Learn about bullying so you know what you’re looking for (www.stopbullying.gov).
- When you see something, do something—be assertive and calm.
- Start with verbal warnings. Use the name of the student who is bullying.
- Call your school or dispatch as dictated by policy. Sometimes the call will stop the behavior.
- If the behavior escalates, stop the bus in a safe place if you have to.
- Maintain control of yourself.
- Stand up and speak, clearly and calmly, to the involved students.
- Do not argue with or try to convince the student who is bullying.
- Move affected students to new, safe seats.
- Report incidents as required by your school’s policy.

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Prevent

- Establish a positive atmosphere on the bus. Be clear, fair, and consistent about rules.
- Treat students the way you want to be treated and the way you want them to treat each other.
- Learn and use their names. Introduce yourself.
- Get to know all of the students on your bus—including the students who bully.
- Use positive, nonverbal interactions—a smile, a nod, a thumbs up, a high five, a pat on the back.
- Notice something positive the students do and say something about it to them or someone else when they can hear it.
- If you regularly drive for a group like a sports team or club, get to know what they do. Go watch them in action and say something about it to them.
- Submit positive bus referrals.