

**Awareness and
good observation
skills are vital
to our children's
safety.**

HELPFUL LINKS

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
www.dhs.gov

National Association for Pupil Transportation
www.napt.org

National Association of State Directors
of Pupil Transportation Services
www.nasdpts.org

Transportation Security Administration
www.tsa.gov

School Bus Safety

**Safety
Awareness for
School Bus
Drivers**



Awareness is the Key

A thorough inspection of your surroundings may suggest a need for further action.

Be on the lookout for:

- * New marks on entrances to bus, or evidence of forced entry
- * Unusual or strange items attached to, or adjacent to vehicle
- * Opened or disturbed compartments, storage, or cabin areas

Pay particular attention to the following areas:

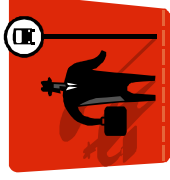
- * Floors, under seats, driver's area, wheelchair lift, engine compartments, fuel tank, and all exit doors



Responding to an Incident

Be aware of people who:

- * Are in restricted areas
- * Look to be wandering around the bus stop or parking areas
- * Appear to be paying too much attention to students, or seem overly interested in particular students or employees
- * Cause disruptions
- * Appear to be taking pictures or video of pickup or drop-off areas
- * Display a weapon or dangerous item



If you witness any of these, remain calm and immediately report the incident. Be sure to note the location of the threat, the direction headed if appropriate, a detailed description of the person and vehicle, and who was involved.

Use district procedures to notify appropriate authorities when a potential threat is identified.

Recommended Practices and Procedures

The establishment of guidelines and practices is necessary to the safety and welfare of a district's employees and students. The following suggestions may be helpful to the security of both the driver and passengers:

- * Familiarize yourself with the safety guidelines of your district, and the emergency procedures put in place.
- * Keep vehicle doors and compartments locked when not in use.
- * Inspect your vehicle prior to use.
- * Be aware of the people and items around you.
- * Report any potential weaknesses in safety or security.

