



NEWS

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

For Immediate Release

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Pittsburgh Public Schools Celebrates National Bus Safety Week with Daily Events to Engage Students, Families and Bus Drivers

PITTSBURGH October 21, 2019 – Pittsburgh Public Schools joins the National Association of Pupil Transportation and school districts across the nation to celebrate National Bus Safety Week. Held during the third full week of October each year, National School Bus Safety Week is an active and evolving public education program for parents, students, teachers, motorists, school bus operators, school administrators, and other interested parties - to join forces and address the importance of school bus safety. Designed to promote school bus safety. This year’s theme is *“My School Bus, The Safest Form of Student Transportation!”*

“This week, we will review our bus safety tips and work with schools, students, families, bus companies and drivers to promote bus safety,” said Pupil Transportation Director Megan Patton. “The safety of our students is a top priority, and we want to ensure a safe ride for everyone.”

In four unique events, the Pupil Transportation Office will share bus safety tips, meet with bus drivers, report bus safety violations, and board school buses to review proper behavior:

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 1:30 PM	Pittsburgh Oliver Citywide Academy, 2323 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15212	Bus Driver Meet and Greet
Wednesday, October 23, 2019	Various Bus Stops	23 rd Annual Operation Safe Stop
Thursday, October 24, 2019 10:00 AM	Pittsburgh King, 50 Montgomery Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15212	Bus Blitz
Friday, October 25, 2019 1:30 PM	Pittsburgh Conroy, Pittsburgh, PA 15214	Bus Driver Meet and Greet

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Students at Pittsburgh King would board buses for a bus blitz to provide bus behavior expectations. At Pittsburgh Oliver and Pittsburgh Conroy, all assigned bus drivers will meet with the teachers and staff to learn about behavior management and interaction with student on their vehicles.

On Wednesday, October 23rd, PENNDOT will host the 23rd Annual Operation Safe Stop in communities across the Commonwealth of PA. PPS Transportation Office will post up at busy intersections across the city to greet families throughout the week. Pittsburgh Police will motor different intersections for Operation Safe Stop, enforcing Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, which requires motorists to stop at least 10 feet away from school buses that have their red lights flashing and stop arm extended. The Transportation Department staff will visit stops throughout the week along with the other events.

Operation Safe Stop is a public awareness and enforcement effort to educate the motoring public that passing a stopped school bus, when children are loading or unloading, is both dangerous and illegal.

The District is also working the City of Pittsburgh to encourage residents to sign the Pittsburgh Safe Driving Pledge, encouraging drivers to follow the speed limit and stop for pedestrians in order to create more livable streets and neighborhoods, reduce serious injury associated with driving, and educate the public about traffic laws and responsible driving behavior.

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