

# THE BUS STOPS HERE



*Safety Newsletter*

September 3, 2021



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC

SUFFOLK BUS CORP.

**WELCOME BACK:** Welcome back! As you have heard in the news, the school bus industry is short drivers. At STS, we too have a driver shortage but by using spare and sport trip drivers, we have our work covered to start the school year. Please remember to refer a friend or family member to complete an application for a school bus driver. You can earn a \$500 referral bonus. Thank you all and stay safe! Special thanks to our Trainers and Safety Department for their hard work over the summer months!



**SLEEPING CHILDREN/UNATTENDED CHILD:** In the beginning of the school year many children are getting used to a new routine and may fall asleep on the bus. It is critical that you follow our safety policy for checking for sleeping children. See pg. 81 in your Safety Manual for our policy. Before and after each and every time you move your vehicle, you must check the entire vehicle for sleeping/unattended children, especially, without limitation, under every seat. If you fail to perform this check, you will be subject to disciplinary action. If a child is left on your vehicle, or if a child that requires an authorized adult - parent, guardian, school or facility personnel - to accept the child is not present when dropping off a child, and you neglect this requirement, your employment will be terminated. This is a zero-tolerance policy, and no excuses are accepted, and no exceptions are made. If your route requires a driver assistant, you and the driver assistant must check the vehicle for sleeping/unattended children, especially, without limitation, under every seat.



**HERO ACT-AIRBORNE INFECTIOUS DISEASE PLAN:** As required by the Health and Essential Rights Act (HERO Act) of 2021, STS/SBC has developed an Airborne Infectious Disease Plan. The airborne infectious disease exposure prevention plan will go into effect when an airborne infectious disease is designated by the New York State Commissioner of Health as a highly contagious communicable disease that presents a serious risk of harm to the public health. The purpose of the NY HERO Act is to protect employees against exposure and disease during a future airborne infectious disease outbreak. The plan follows the same protocol we have used for COVID 19.

### **SCHOOL OPENING ODDS & ENDS:**

- The school calendars can be found on My Parking Space, click on "Notifications" then "School Calendar".
- Information regarding non-guaranteed weeks (weeks you can apply for unemployment) can be found under "Notifications" then click "Forms".
- For guaranteed employees, pay for Labor Day will include your dry run pay. All dry run pay will be in your 9/17/21 paycheck.

**HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT:** It's time for our health insurance open enrollment! **This is for new enrollees only.** If you are interested in signing up for the Company health insurance or would like more information, please email [benefits@suffolkbus.com](mailto:benefits@suffolkbus.com); enrollment period for applications ends on 9/17/21. Benefits will begin 10/1/21.



Our Facebook spotlight this week will be Laura Sabanovic, large bus driver for the Hauppauge School District

*"Be the person you want to work with."*

*Enjoy the Labor Day Weekend!*