

THE BUS STOPS HERE



Safety Newsletter

April 29, 2022



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC

SUFFOLK BUS CORP.



SUMMER SIGN UP: Have you signed up for summer work yet? Remember, all van drivers and driver assistants hired 1/1/17 and later are required to sign up and attend the pick. We anticipate camp and summer program enrollment to be higher than last year. Sign-up for summer work is now available on My Parking Space. Routes typically run 6 weeks and begin June 27 and July 5 and end mid-August. There will also be Large Bus summer work especially out of the Coram and Pond Rd yards. We encourage you to plan vacation time around these dates. All van drivers and driver assistants hired 1/1/17 and later are required to sign up and attend the pick.

SHOUT OUT: We received the following memo from the Transportation Supervisor at Smithtown CSD regarding driver Thomas DeNunzio - "I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge one of your own, Thomas Denunzio, one of our Tackan mini-bus drivers and the great job he did today. This morning while doing his Tackan run he noticed a young girl without a coat, walking along the roadway alone and crying. He opened his door and realized she was in distress and lost. He immediately called Dispatch, "I have an odd situation here". Your road supervisor, Yolisha, went to the scene while they waited for the police to arrive. Tommy's keen observation of his surroundings and his quick thinking saved a lost child. Good job, Tommy! Drivers like Tommy are what Smithtown looks for and we are so proud to have him on board. Thanks again!"



SURROUND YOURSELF WITH SAFETY: As the warmer weather approaches and the end of the school year nears, we typically find an increase in minor accidents. A minor accident can become a major accident very easily. When weather is poor, professional drivers will practice safe driving habits. In nicer warmer weather drivers can experience distractions and route hypnosis. Route hypnosis happens when you arrive at a destination and do not recall how you got there. You can combat this by practicing the following defensive driving techniques:

- At intersections...cover the brake. A professional driver will cover the brake and be prepared to stop. Other drivers may be daydreaming. Always expect the unexpected at an intersection. Do not take it for granted that other drivers will stop at a stop sign or red light.
- Make sure you make a full stop at all stop signs. Count 1,2,3 before proceeding and always look left, right and left again before proceeding.
- Leave a safe cushion between you and the car in front of you. Following too closely will always lead to an accident if the car in front of you stops abruptly. Use the 3 second distance rule in good weather and 4 second distance rule in inclement weather...notice when the vehicle in front of you passes an object like a light pole; 3 or 4 seconds should pass before you pass that same pole.
- Students and passengers may also be daydreaming. Review crossing procedures with your students at every stop and look out for passengers as they walk to and from the bus.
- Make sure your mirrors are adjusted properly during your pre-trip so you can view the front and sides of your bus.

Let us all work together to be on top of our game and avoid accidents from happening.



This Friday's Facebook spotlight is Gabriel Medina, Dispatcher out of 1849 Pond Rd.

"Your talent determines what you can do. Your motivation determines how much you're willing to do. Your attitude determines how well you do it."