THEBUSSTOPSHERE





Safety Newsletter



October 14, 2022

SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC

SUFFOLK BUS CORP



<u>SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK</u>: Next week begins National School Bus Safety Week, 10/17. In that regard, let's remember the following when it comes to autumn roads & yard safety:

The autumn season is full of extremes, and we need to adjust to the changing weather conditions. This begins with your pre-trip inspections and your driving habits. The temperature changes will affect your tire pressure. Inside flat tires can be difficult to detect but they must be checked daily. At this time of year moisture can fog your windows and mirrors. Check and make sure

all heaters, defrosters, fans, and wipers are in working order. Autumn is historically a wet time of year and with the falling leaves, the road conditions can increase your chances of hydroplaning. Slow down and increase your following distance with the vehicle ahead of you. If you do hydroplane, ease your foot off the accelerator and let the vehicle slow itself down. Also, wet leaves are slippery when walking so be careful! The hours of daylight get shorter...make sure your Company jacket has reflectors. If you notice any yard lights not working, please bring it to your Supervisor's attention ASAP. Drive slowly through the yards and park only in designated parking spots. Use walkways and sidewalks.

<u>CDL PERMIT CLASS</u>: We are holding a CDL permit class on Tuesday, 10/18, from 10:00AM-1:00PM at the Safety & Training Center, 50 Saxon Ave. This is a great opportunity for DA's to come in and get more information on driving and obtaining a CDL permit. This class is free, and everyone is welcome. If you have any friends or family who have thought about driving, please invite them to this class. Remember, you get a \$1,000 bounty for every driver referral you make after they drive with us for 6 months! DA's - you also get a \$1,000 bounty when you upgrade your license to a CDL and get a school bus route.

HOW TO CONNECT TO CHILDREN WHO CAN'T SPEAK: There may be more ways than you realize. You may have riders on your bus that cannot speak, are in a wheelchair, paralyzed, lack of emotion or just seem like they are unable to connect. They are attending school to learn and all children can learn and connect to some degree. However, it may take longer or they may not be able to express to you in a way you understand that they know who you are. A few suggestions to make a great bus ride for these children is to always greet them with a smile while looking at their eyes, even if it seems like they don't hear you. Notice something about them and tell them. It shows you care. Just remember to acknowledge their presence while they are with you. You are very important and can make a difference that can last a lifetime!

<u>SEPTEMBER SAFETY WINNERS</u>: Nora Guevara, large bus; Kaelly Villamar, van; Clarisse Etienne, DA; Reynald Honore, line; Linda Moller, ADA; David Cogliati, Shop; Laura Wills, management. Congratulations to all!



<u>FACEBOOK SPOTLIGHT</u>: Our Facebook spotlight this week is Nicole Strongminchin, van driver for Middle Country out of the Coram yard

"Work hard, dream big, never give up"

