

# THE BUS STOPS HERE



*Safety Newsletter*

October 6, 2023



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC

SUFFOLK BUS CORP.

ONE TEXT OR CALL COULD  
**WRECK**  
IT ALL

**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL PEDESTRIAN SAFETY MONTH:** The personal, physical and environmental benefits of walking can lead to healthier, quieter, cleaner and safer streets. However, a distracted driver can change all of that. On average, a pedestrian was killed every 71 minutes and injured every 9 minutes in traffic crashes in 2021. If you see a crosswalk, expect a pedestrian. In fact, always expect pedestrians, they are distracted too and may not be aware of you. Do not walk in the yards on your cell phone.

**SHOUT OUTS:** We received the following email from a parent in the Babylon UFSD regarding large bus driver, John Giebel - "I just wanted to let you know the driver of the ORANGE bus is great. He is strict about not leaving any child off the bus without a parent or guardian, which in today's scary times, I very much appreciate the layer of security he provides. Today, he did not let one child off as the mother was late coming to the stop. While the other parents were encouraging him to let him go, I appreciate that he stood his ground as the safety of the students is his priority. I commend him for it."



This email was received from a parent in the Three Village CSD regarding large bus driver, Dan Moore - "Mr. Dan really is a tremendous asset to the Three Village team, and he truly does love his job and all the children he cares for every day. He has a kind soul and steadfast attitude. All the neighbors in the community are proud to have him as the bus driver." We are proud to have both John & Dan on our team!

**NON-VERBAL STUDENTS:** When students are considered to be nonverbal, it means that they don't use words to express what they are thinking or feeling. Some people think because these students don't talk, they don't communicate at all. This is not true. During the training, "She Has a Voice", a team member shared a story about one of her riders who had cerebral palsy. The student's mother shared that despite her immobility and silence she was aware of what was going on around her. She was able to understand what people were doing and saying without any signs of awareness. This is an example that, although this student was very quiet, she was able to learn. We can use this as a reminder of what we do and say while working can have an influence on the children around us. Watch upcoming Newsletters for further information.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:** The Leonard Family Scholarship is back! The annual scholarship is open to the children of employees of New York School Bus Contractors Association member companies. STS is a proud member of this association. Preference is given to students with financial need. In addition, \$10 from every new bus purchased from Leonard Bus Sales is put toward this scholarship fund. A one-time \$2,500 scholarship will be paid directly to the educational institution for the 2024/2025 school year. The application for the scholarship can be found on My Parking Space, click on "Notifications", click on "Forms". Deadline to file an application is 4/1/24.

**CDL PERMIT CLASS:** We are holding our next CDL permit class on Wednesday, 10/11, from 10:00AM-1:00 PM at the Safety and Training facility located at 1780 Smithtown Ave, Ronkonkoma [behind Long Island McArthur Airport]. This is a great opportunity for DA's, and friends and family to come in and get more information on driving and obtaining a CDL permit. This class is free, and everyone is welcome. Remember, you get a \$500 bounty for every driver referral you make after

they drive for 6 months!

**FREE FLU SHOTS:** Flu shots are available at your local pharmacy or at Dr. Guida's office. All employees must bring their Company ID with them, and you must call ahead to make an appointment. The locations and schedules for Dr. Guida's offices are as follows: **373 Sunrise Hwy, West Babylon (631) 422-3377**-Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays 9-4 for flu shot only.



This week's Facebook spotlight is Xiomara Nunez, driver assistant out of the Coram yard

*"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."*