RIDING THE BUS FOR THE FIRST TIME IS A BIG STEP FOR ANY CHILD. HELP CHILDREN FOLLOW BEST SAFETY PRACTICES AS THEY BOARD ON AND OFF THE SCHOOL BUS WITH THESE TIPS:

- WALK YOUNG CHILDREN TO THE BUS STOP AND WAIT WITH THEM UNTIL THE BUS ARRIVES. BE VIGILANT AND MAKE SURE DRIVERS CAN SEE THE CHILDREN AT THE BUS STOP.
- TEACH CHILDREN TO WAIT FOR THE SCHOOL BUS TO COME TO A COMPLETE STOP BEFORE GETTING OFF THE BUS AND TO NOT WALK BEHIND THE BUS.
- SLOW DOWN AND STOP WHEN DRIVING NEAR A SCHOOL BUS THAT IS FLASHING YELLOW OR RED LIGHTS. THE BUS IS EITHER PREPARING TO STOP (YELLOW) OR ALREADY STOPPED (RED), AND CHILDREN WILL BE GETTING ON OR OFF.
- WHEN EXITING THE BUS, CHILDREN SHOULD TAKE 5 BIG STEPS IN FRONT OF THE BUS, LOCK EYE CONTACT WITH THE BUS DRIVER AND CROSS WHEN THE DRIVER INDICATES IT'S SAFE. LOOK BOTH WAYS TWICE!
- DRIVERS SHOULD FOLLOW THE SPEED LIMIT AND SLOW DOWN IN SCHOOL ZONES AND NEAR BUS STOPS. REMEMBER TO STAY ALERT AND LOOK FOR CHILDREN WHO MAY BE TRYING TO GET TO OR FROM THE SCHOOL BUS.
- CHILDREN SHOULD USE HAND RAILS WHEN BOARDING OR EXITING. BE CAREFUL OF ITEMS THAT COULD GET STUCK IN THE DOOR. IF SOMETHING IS DROPPED, MAKE SURE THE BUS DRIVER CAN SEE THEM BEFORE THEY PICK IT UP.

*Research shows that school buses are the safest mode of motorized transportation for getting children to and from school, but injuries can occur if kids are not careful and aware when getting on and off the bus*