



School Bus Bullying

The Road to Safer, Calmer School Bus Environments



How it happens
and
How to help stop
Bullying on the
School Bus

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School Bus Bullying

Some Reasons Bullying Happens



- P Bullies believe they are in charge of the bus;
- P The worst behaved '*learned misbehaviors*' may exceed the bus driver's skills to intervene.
- P Tolerated in the environment?

Some kids can change their life by changing their friends. ~ Love & Logic





School Bus Bullying

What can be done?

Adults and also the students can take back control of the environment from the bullies and the otherwise malbehaved students that have established a hostile environment.



- P Establish bus driver authority (by Law);
- P Trustworthy Policy - (process happens);
- P Follow the bus driver's directions;
- P Delegate run of bus to the well behaved;
- P Well-behaved must feel safe to help intervene.





School Bus Bullying

Prep before leaving school



*12 Million Children
Experience Bus
Bullying Daily.
~KameronInstitute*

- P Out of aisle; Soft voices;
Sit forward;
- P Respectful toward others,
bus driver, and self;
- P Nothing in mouth;
- P Negotiate to protect bus
environment - do not
bargain or make deals.





School Bus Bullying

Immediate interventions



“The bullied child in general can not be counted on to stop the bully.” ~ Stan Davis

- P Follow directions;
- P In the moment - Lowest level possible;
- P Warning - Seat change - Wait outside bus - Escort to office;
- P Parent in charge of first referral when possible.





School Bus Bullying

Stay on Task

- P 'No' until 'Yes' is the reward.
- P When the adult intervenes the worst behaved may shift focus to include bullying the adult.
- P When the adults involved drift from the task the students also drift.
- P A return to previous norm or worse.

“No yelling, talk nice to other students, stay out of aisle and try to make a save before the bus driver sees and also soft voices and be safe, respectful and responsible.” ~ Janessa, g4





School Bus Bullying

After Bus Environment Calmed

- P Focus on maintenance activities that help promote the well behaved having the run of the bus.
- P When adults drift from their task bored students may return to inventing unwanted activities.
- P Restrain the ‘*Draconian Effect*’ the well-behaved may eventually act out.
- P Adapting policy options to meet the needs found in the well-behaved bus environment.

*“We keep winning stars because peoples help keep others quiet at the quiet places. By shhing, two fingers up and saying be quiet.
~ Kathryn g5*






School Bus Bullying

Bus Forty-Seven Olympic Games

Bus 47 2010 School Bus Safety Olympics
K-5 – K-8 – 9-12 Routes
Spring Series: May 24 – 29 2010

SCHOOL	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDS	THURS	FRIDAY	LINE-UP
K-8 SCHOOL Technical Violations	2	3	1	3	2	 K-8 4
SAVES	0	3	1	1	2	
FINAL SCORE	2	★	★	2	★	
K-5 SCHOOL Technical Violations	2	3	3	2	6	 K-5 2
SAVES	2	3	3	2	4	
FINAL SCORE	★	★	★	★	2	
HIGH SCHOOL Technical Violations	1	1	★	★	2	 9-12 ★
SAVES	1	1	★	★	2	
FINAL SCORE	★	★	★	★	★	

- P 'No' until 'Yes' is the reward;
- P No candy/food rewards, except at school for all team players;
- P Star day earns privilege to choose seating the next day.

The lowest score wins the game for the day. Students can save a technical violation by intervening before the bus driver intervenes. A star is a perfect Final Score for that day and rewards with students choosing who they sit with the next day. Students that prefer their assigned seat have first choice of that seat. Any student acting up during a star ride loses their star and is moved.





School Bus Bullying

Bus Forty-Seven Olympic Games Benefits

- P Demonstrates how authority works;
- P Benefits the well behaved;
- P Directs energy in a positive direction;
- P Discourages negative attention-getting;
- P Reduces major misbehaviors;
- P Accepting Responsibility/Leadership skill building;
- P Planning ahead for what you want to happen later in life;
- P Demonstrates that the well-behaved working together can make a difference;
- P A star achievement can be better than candy.





School Bus Bullying

Effective Support



According to the National Association of School Psychologists, "In the United States, about 160,000 children miss school every day for fear of being bullied. Some of these children endure rides on buses where bullies have the run."

The bullied child in general can not be counted on to stop the bully, not without effective support from the adults involved and also from the well behaved students encouraged to help intervene. Bullying may not stop at this point but awareness about bullying remains a form of supervision and provides the target with hope.





School Bus Bullying

The greatest deterrent to safer, calmer environments

- P The fear of making a mistake among both some children and some adults can override the decision to make a difference.
- P Mistakes are allowed;
- P Failure is allowed;
- P Failure to keep trying is not allowed.
- P 'No' until 'Yes' is the reward.

After establishing a safer, calmer bus environment, then involve the parents, such as the parent the authority in charge of the first bus ticket when possible.





School Bus Bullying

Help Stop Bullying Now



"The school buses are the first and last school function for millions of schoolchildren every school day. Restoring and maintaining safe, calm environments on the school buses sets the stage for restoring everything in-between." ~ (jk)

*"If you want to truly understand something, try to change it."
~ Kurt Lewin, founder of modern social psychology ~*





School Bus Bullying

Resources



Take a Stand, Lend a Hand - Stop Bullying Now! – Website Includes downloadable videos for class training and discussion.
www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/

Stop Bullying/Prevention - Stan Davis
Presents practical research-based strategies to help reduce bullying in schools.
www.stopbullyingnow.com/

Free Ads and Bullying Report Form
www.2safeschools.org

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School Bus Bullying

Resources

The Peaceful School Bus Program - A whole-school program that's designed to decrease inappropriate behavior on buses while creating a climate of respect and cooperation. Get K-12 students on board with peaceful, positive behavior.

www.hazelden.org/web/go/peacefulschoolbus

The Method of Shared Concern - A procedure focused on groups where bullying is of moderate severity and to involve groups of secondary or late primary school students.

www.kenrigby.net/SharedConcern.pdf

Take A Bully Intervention Course Online

www.bullying.org/

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