

What's the "Point of Safety" and Why is it Important?

The point of safety is where students should gather prior to boarding and immediately after debarking the bus. It is a location far enough away from the bus so that the bus driver can check that the students are safe.

It's a way to keep kids safe – and an Ohio law.

Over 90% of all bus injuries and death happen OUTSIDE of the bus within a 10 foot diameter of the bus called the DANGER ZONE. For this reason, it is extremely important that drivers visually see students as the bus approaches a stop (students should NOT run towards a moving bus, they can slip and fall under the bus) or the driver could turn not seeing them running towards the bus). PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS AT THE BUS STOP BEFORE THE BUS ARRIVES AND IS VISIBLE TO THE DRIVER-NOT IN CARS OR ON PORCHES.

Upon exiting the bus the driver by law has to account for all students who exited the bus at the POINT of SAFETY. This way the driver is certain that all students have exited safely and are safely standing away from the bus before he/she pulls away. If the driver loses count or has students walking along the side or behind the bus, the driver is not safe to move the bus at all. This POINT OF SAFETY law is in place to keep our students safe. Do not motion for your child to leave the POINT of SAFETY until the bus pulls away from the stop.

Please encourage your student to obey the following rules:

PICK UP:

1. All students are to be at the bus stop BEFORE the bus arrives and visible to the driver as the bus approaches. Students should NEVER run after a moving bus, this is why it is important to be at the stop early. Also, as the driver approaches he/she can safely see how many students are to board the bus.
2. The driver, once he/she checks to make sure all oncoming cars have stopped, will motion for the students to approach the bus and board. The driver can see that all students he/she observed at the point of safety have safely boarded the bus. THEN the driver can pull away from the stop.

DROP OFF

1. All students, after getting off the bus must go to their POINT OF SAFETY (assigned by the driver at each school bus stop) and STAY there.
2. The driver will observe the students as they exit the bus, check to make sure they are all visible and safe at the POINT OF SAFETY and then pull the bus away from the stop and leave.