PBS and Transportation

August 5, 2010

Stephanie Martinez

Therese Sandomierski
Agenda

• Rationale
• Establishing expectations & rules
• Implementation strategies for transportation personnel
• Strategies for schools
• Open Forum
Why Transportation?

• Schools identify “Bus” as one of their top 3 problem locations
  • “Data Gap” between schools & transportation

• A student’s bus experience can make or break the beginning/ end of the school day for a student

• Drivers’ strategies can be more effective as part of a planned system for behavior

• PBS Strategies can be implemented on the bus
  • “Transportation-Wide PBS” or school-based initiatives
Making it Happen

- Must be a collaborative effort between the schools & transportation
- A thorough plan will cover:
  - Identifying Expectations & Rules
  - Teaching Expectations & Rules
  - Reward Systems
  - Bus Driver Handled vs. School Handled behaviors
  - Data-Based Decision Making
  - Training drivers & school personnel
Identifying Expectations

“Transportation-Wide” PBS:

• Identify 3-5 positively stated expectations for transportation to be used across the county
  • Driver committee to develop & propose to department
  • “Ideal Student” activity to collect everyone’s ideas
  • Consider school-board requirements
• Pair the expectations with a visual representation

School-Based approach:

• Schools provide visuals for buses, training for drivers
Identifying Rules

• Rules are aligned to expectations (bus or school)

“Transportation-Wide” PBS:
• Identify 3-5 positively stated rules to be used across the county
  • Students loading & unloading, when bus is moving
  • Similar process as expectations development
  • Be sure rules address critical safety, discipline concerns

School-Based approach:
• Data-Based, driver buy-in
1. Keep all items inside the bus at all times.

2. Keep your hands, head, and feet to yourself and away from the window.

3. Talk quietly with your friends.

4. Stay in your seat, sit up straight, and face forward, keeping the aisle clear.

5. Follow directions from the bus driver.
THE “WALTON BUS SERIES”

Be SAFE
- Stay in your seat

Be RESPONSIBLE
- Follow directions the first time you’re asked

Be RESPECTFUL
- Keep your hands to yourself

Be COURTEOUS
Ridin’ Right

Be Respectful
- Speak quietly to your neighbor
- Listen and follow driver directions

Use Safety
- Walk on and off bus
- Remain seated facing forward

Show Self Control
- Keep hands, feet & objects to self
- Keep floor and seat clean
Keep Right
Strategies for Transportation Personnel
Plans for Teaching

• Introduction can happen any day, any time

• Data-Based decisions to identify times when a review is needed
  • Work with school, district IT

• When planning lessons, consider the amount of time bus drivers have
  • Arrival vs. pick-up
  • Give drivers a script that can be read to the students
  • Visuals that go along with the scripts
  • Activities kids can complete on bus (coloring page, word puzzles, round robins)
Teaching Expectations & Rules

- Expectations can be taught through ongoing discussions and rehearsals.
- Procedures & rules **must** be rehearsed (get on/off bus, getting students attention, emergency signals, etc.).
- Develop role plays, videos, skits for schools to use.
  - Have a small committee (drivers, assistants, district personnel) do this.
  - Student, parent participation.
    - Possible consequence for inappropriate behavior.
# Expectations Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="Image" alt="Bus Illustration" /></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loading and Unloading</th>
<th>When the bus is moving</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Be Safe</strong></td>
<td><strong>Keep two cheeks/bumper on the seat.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stay on the sidewalk until it is time to load.</td>
<td>Stay seated with face forward.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go directly to assigned seat and stay seated.</td>
<td>Keep body parts inside the bus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Be Respectful</strong></td>
<td><strong>Talk softly so others may hear directions from bus driver.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself.</td>
<td>Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share space with others.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Be Punctual</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be at your stop on time.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from L. Riffel, [http://behaviordoctor.org/presentations.htm](http://behaviordoctor.org/presentations.htm)
Kids Word Scramble Puzzle

Below is a puzzle related to traffic safety information presented on the Kids Page. Use each set of letters to make a word you have seen somewhere in these pages. Use the letters in the circles to make another word related to safety.

UTELQYI

ETEF

UBS

ESTA  ELBT (2 words)

ISAEI

Need a hint? (You need it when you RIDE A BUS.)

School Bus Safety Pledge

I, ________________________, pledge to be a safe school bus rider by being a person of character and following the safety rules. I will sit and stay in my assigned seat each and everyday. I will act respectfully and responsibly while riding on a school bus. I will keep my feet, hands and objects to self and inside the bus. During emergencies and at railroad tracks I will stop talking. I will talk quietly to my neighbor. I will listen and follow directions of the bus driver. I understand that safety for myself and others is my responsibility.

__________________________  ____________
student’s signature  date

L. Riffel, http://behaviordoctor.org/presentation s.htm
High School Lesson Plan for Teaching the Bus Expectations

• Good morning, everyone! Before you leave for school, I want to share some important information with you.

• Every morning and every afternoon, I’m going to look for students who are helping to make our ride more enjoyable. I’ll be looking for students who are
  
  o Safe
  o Responsible
  o Respectful, or
  o Courteous

  ▪ One way to be safe is to stay in your seat.
  ▪ One way to be responsible is to follow directions the first time you’re asked.
  ▪ One way to be respectful is to keep your hands to yourself.
  ▪ One way to be courteous is to ________________.

• When our bus is acting safe, responsible, respectful, and courteous, we’ll earn special privileges. Some examples of what we might earn are: (these are only suggestions — drivers should decide for themselves)
  
  o Music
  o Choose your own seats
  o Positive report to the principal
  o Piece of candy on the way off the bus
  o ________________

• Each day, I’ll let you know what privilege we’re working for. If you have other ideas about what kinds of privileges we might be able to earn, tell me and I’ll see if we might be able to do that.

• I want you guys to have a good ride to and from school. I hope talking about these expectations will help us all to do that.

• Thank you! Have a good day at school!!
Bus-Based Reward Systems

- Magnetic White Board to keep track of compliments
  - After a predetermined number of compliments every one on bus gets reward
- High Fives, Positive Praise, Certificates for all bus riders if no referrals for the whole week
- Bus Notes that go home to parent, positive phone call
- Tokens: tickets, leis, pot holder loops, bracelets, coins, etc.
  - Work with schools to cash in the tokens
I noticed ____________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________,
and I’m glad you’re a part of my day.

Sincerely,

Your ride is all about

SAFETY

Sit and stay in assigned seat
Act responsibly & respectfully
Feet, hands and objects to self
and inside the bus
Emergency and railroad tracks—
voices off
Talk quietly to your neighbor
Your driver is the leader

Transportation &
Safe & Drug Free Schools
July 16, 2003

http://behaviordoctor.org/certificates.htm
Guidelines for Issuing Tickets (Example)

• Give out **AT LEAST** 5 tickets each week:
  
  • 1 ticket goes to a “favorite” student
  
  • 1 ticket goes to an “at-risk” student
  
  • 1 ticket goes to someone in-between
  
  • 2 tickets are your choice

• Distribute daily
Data-Based Decision Making

• Does transportation have access to the data (i.e. number of referrals, etc.) or do they have to get from each individual school?
  • Hurdle if they have to get data from each school. Need to work with district IT department.
  • Based on data identify behaviors for bus drivers to focus rewards on

• Survey bus drivers/assistants/students about safety on the school bus
  • Keep manageable by doing a focus group
Bus Driver vs. School Handled

- Agreement between drivers (district-wide) and schools
  - Transportation committee can work with PBS District Coordinators, PBS Coaches, and/or School Admin
  - Identify specific behaviors, not just categories (e.g., “disrespect”)
- Provide drivers with behavior management strategies
  - Explain how students can get what they want
    - “I’ll be happy to listen when your voice matches mine/ when you’re sitting in your seat.”
  - Give one command at a time, wait longer than you think you should (10-second rule)
  - Reward other students
  - Contingency management
Proactive Strategy: Keep them Busy

• Develop a relationship with every student (greet by name, high 5’s, know one thing about them, “I noticed” statements)
• Work with library to start a book program
• Encourage kids to read & share their books, magazines from home
• Daily “Find-It!” games/ “I Spy”/ “License Plate”/ “ABC game”/ “Theme Song” game/
  • Have them give examples of Bus Expectations
• Masking tape artwork
• **CHANGE IT UP!**
Possible Consequences for Bus Behavior

• Work with schools to identify driver-administered vs. school-administered
  • Re-teach expectations & rules
  • Assigned seats
  • Change of seat (sleepers at back of bus)
  • Last off the bus in the morning or last on the bus in the afternoon; discuss behavior with the student in private
  • Complete a behavior improvement plan
  • Give choices
  • Have student develop lesson plan
  • Call parent
  • Driver participates in parent conference
SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION
2009-2010 Steps to be taken prior to writing a referral.

School ________________________________

Students Name: __________________________ Grade: ________________

Route: _________________________________

Driver / Monitor Name: __________________________

On ______________________ a verbal warning was given for violating the bus rules posted on the bus.
Violation: ________________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Student Signature: __________________

On ______________________ the student continued to disregard the bus rules. I have given him/her a second verbal warning and moved the student to another seat.
Violation: ________________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Student Signature: __________________

On ______________________ the student continued to disregard the bus rules and the bus drivers instructions. I have contacted the parent and informed them of the situation on the bus.
Violation: ________________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Student Signature: __________________

Phone #: ________________________________

If another incident occurs: "Write the referral" and attach a copy to the referral.

Date when the referral was submitted: ________________________________

Note: In the event you have a situation of a non-tolerance offense please write your referral immediately and turn it in.
Professional Development for Bus Drivers

- **Format**
  - All vs. small group
  - Who will do it?
  - How often? Length of time?
  - Pick one topic at a time
Develop a Yearly Action Plan

• Transportation should develop their own action plan
  – What are the districts top priorities?
  – Prioritize SWPBS elements
  – Take baby steps
Action Plan (April 2009)

3 Months Goals:

- Plan Bus Drivers Training
- Plan Student Training
- Meet with Transportation Director
- Develop Poster w/ expectations
- Submit printing order (posters, minor infractions, golden tickets)
- Data Analysis (identify schools with the most bus referrals and begin working with those bus drivers)
- Incorporate Bus expectations in the PBS Brochure
- Develop video clips for student School Training for the beginning of the school year
- Letter to parents (on the first day of school) explaining bus policies and procedures, and what the bus transportation expect of students riding the bus to and from school
- Keep PBS Teams aware of bus trainings

1 Year Goal:  (School Year 2009-2010)

- Bus Driver Training (2x a year)
- Bus Open House for parents and students (training to parents and students, bus tour)
- Student Bus Training at the beginning of the school year.
- Use of Minor Infraction
- Use of Golden Ticket
- Monitor Referrals on a consistent basis
- Identify bus drivers that require additional training and model for them
- Bus Drivers Forum (meet with bus drivers quarterly to share data by schools, answer questions presented by them, and find ways to support them).
- Develop Recognition Program – find ways to reward bus drivers that are managing challenging behaviors on their buses, on time, perfect attendance, etc.
- Love the Bus Campaign – work with the Bus Association
- Keep PBS Teams at the school level updated with Transportation activities and/or events related to students
- Monthly PBS Meeting (we need to include at least 2 bus drivers)
- Nat’l PBS Conference/Implementer’s Forum (create awareness of Transportation PBS efforts)
Strategies for Schools
Making it Happen

• Establish a process for ongoing communication with transportation (District Coordinator, PBS Coaches, School Admin, etc...)
  • Data exchange, feedback on strategies

• Be fluent with bus expectations, rules & procedures
  • Make sure your teachers know how to teach bus behavior

• Develop relationships with drivers
  • Understand & appreciate their perspectives
Teaching Expectations & Rules

• Schedule a time during announcements, assemblies, etc… for bus lessons
• 2x/year school borrows a bus to rehearse rules/procedures
• Use school video/ media resources to tape appropriate bus behavior
• Have each teacher post bus expectations/rules in classroom and bus loop area
  • Review daily at dismissal
  • Use as a teaching tool/prompt for repeat bus offenders
Bus Line Up Procedure

Reward Systems: Students

- Provide bus drivers a supply of school tokens & refresh stock often
- Members of Tier 1 PBS team ride along (rotating buses) to teach & reward
- If buses have their own token, consider:
  - 1 Bus token = 2 School-Wide tokens
  - Special (highly valued) items/activities for bus tokens
    - Group Contingencies & Rewards
    - Individual Reward
### It's All About Safety
### Bus Race
### At Kennedy Middle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Referrals for September:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus 1</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bus 2</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus 3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus 4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Reward Systems: Drivers

• Juan Valdez Award (hot cocoa/tea for those who don’t drink coffee)

• Bagged breakfast (water/juice, doughnuts/bagel)

• If you have an ice cream sundae/icee party for the students, have one delivered to bus drivers/attendants at end of day

• Brag sheet/positive phone call to district transportation office—read it to whole bus with driver present

• Whatever you use to reward your faculty include bus drivers
Join Us in Saying “Thank You” to our School Bus Drivers...

Date: 2/23/09, 2/24/09, 2/26/09

Time: 12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.

2/23/09 Horizon
2/24/09 Simpson
2/26/09 St. Cloud

Light Lunch will be provided.

Positive Behavior Support Project

We have 3 different dates and 3 locations to ensure all bus drivers can participate in this event....

Join us in saying thank you to our Transportation Department....
Building Relationships with Bus Drivers

• Be visible to the drivers (wave, smile, anything to acknowledge their presence
• At the beginning of the year welcome them as part of your school family (i.e. discuss school expectations, let them share their needs as drivers, provide snacks/goodies). Meet again during the year or ask the supervisor to speak with them at their monthly meetings.
• Communicate with the drivers (i.e. speak with them personally about an issue)
• Provide support: driving the bus is not as easy as you think, their main responsibility is to transport kids safely; most are not trained on how to deal with behavior problems, help by teaching them
• Drivers feel they are not part of the school so acknowledge that you care about them, on a hot day provide a cold bottle of water, or just take the time to say “thanks” for what they do
• Feeling appreciated goes a long way with how people deal with others

Debbie Owens, Seminole Prevention Coalition
Open Forum

• What are some questions you have?
• What are some other things you have tried that have worked for you?
Additional Resources

• Sample Lesson Plan for Bus Behavior-High School: http://behaviordoctor.org/formsandtools.htm

• Positive Interventions and Effective Strategies for Changing Behavior on the Bus: Book for Transportation Department Employees, Administrators, Educators: http://behaviordoctor.org/books.htm

• Caught Being Good on the Bus Certificates: http://behaviordoctor.org/certificates.htm

• Bus Training & Disabilities that Might Affect a Student’s Behavior on the Bus: http://behaviordoctor.org/presentations.htm

• Strategies for Bus Drivers:
Additional Resources

• Coloring Book Pages, Activities:
  • http://www.kidscolorpages.com/busstop.htm;
  • http://www.first-school.ws/activities/crafts/transportation/school_bus.htm
  • http://itre.ncsu.edu/ghsp/GameWordSearch.html
  • http://www.thevirtualvine.com/WheelsOnTheBus.html

• Bus Safety Websites:
  • http://www.nysgtsc.state.ny.us/Kids/kid-sch1.htm
  • http://www.nysgtsc.state.ny.us/kids.htm
  • http://www.ncbussafety.org/NCBUSSAFETY.html
  • http://www.ncsbs.org/

• List of other websites:
  • http://www4.geometry.net/detail/basic_s/school_bus_safety.html
Contact Information and Resources

FLPBS: RtIB Project
- Phone: (813) 974-6440
- Fax: (813) 974-6115
- E-mail: flpbs@fmhi.usf.edu
- Website: http://flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu

OSEP TA Center on PBIS
- Website: www.pbis.org

Association on PBS
- Website: www.apbs.org