

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #68 (2009-2010)

October 12, 2009

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION FOR SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK

*ASD Goal: Education in the highly diverse ASD will be accessible, culturally responsive, supportive of students, and safe.*

PERTINENT FACTS:

Student safety is the overarching responsibility of the Anchorage School District. Our educational programs instruct students on how to maintain healthy lifestyles, how to handle emergency situations and to be aware of traffic and their surroundings on city streets.

School Bus Safety Week enhances that awareness and allows us to focus on the daily transportation of our students, who ride the district's own 80 buses, plus 157 more contracted through Forsythe Transportation Inc. The buses operate 1,300 routes each day and provide over 6 million passenger trips and travel 3 million miles annually.

School buses are still the safest form of transportation in the United States. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, school buses are nearly eight times safer than passenger vehicles.

The administration recommends approval of a resolution recognizing Oct. 19-23, 2009 as School Bus Safety Week in the Anchorage School District. The resolution symbolizes the strong support the Anchorage School Board places on all phases of school bus safety.

CC/HS/RD

Approved by: Heather Sawyer, Executive Director, Communications

Prepared by: Ronnie Dent, Communications Specialist

**ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD**  
ASDR 2009-2010-04

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK,  
OCTOBER 19 TO 23, 2009**

**WHEREAS**, America's 480,000 school buses comprise the largest mass transportation fleet in the country, 2.5 times the size of all other forms of mass transit, intercity buses, commercial airlines, and rail combined; and

**WHEREAS**, during the school year, school buses make more than 50 million passenger trips daily carrying approximately 25 million children; and

**WHEREAS**, the Anchorage School District and its contractor, Forsythe Transportation Inc., operate 239 buses on a daily basis, providing more than 6 million passenger trips that travel about 3 million miles each year; and

**WHEREAS**, school buses meet higher construction, equipment, and inspection standards than any other vehicle, and school bus drivers meet higher qualification, training, and testing standards than any other drivers; and

**WHEREAS**, School Bus Safety Week, which dates back to 1966, also recognizes the hard work and dedication of school transportation personnel, especially the many school bus drivers who ensure a safe journey each and every day; and

**WHEREAS**, School Bus Safety Week promotes awareness through local and state activities to educate the public of school bus safety issues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Anchorage School Board supports the goals and ideals of School Bus Safety Week, recognizing Oct. 19 to 23, 2009 as School Bus Safety Week in the Anchorage School District.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 12th day of October, 2009.

---

**John Steiner, President**

Jeff Friedman  
Pat Higgins  
Crystal Kennedy

Jeannie Mackie  
Kathleen Plunkett  
Tim Steele

Carol Comeau, Superintendent