

Prepared Not Scared

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Please turn cell phones and beepers off or to vibrate.



Thank you for your consideration.



Why Do We Need to Talk About School Safety?

- It can happen here.
- Knowledge is Power



Gang Video



Concealed Gun Video



Student Suspected of Possessing a Gun

Not Displayed



Concealed Gun

If a student reports – or other evidence suggest that a student on the bus may have a concealed gun:

- If you have a radio call in a Signal 0 (or other agreed upon signal) to dispatch along with your route number, location and destination.
- Continue to the destination without alerting the student with the gun or the other students.

Concealed Gun

- If law enforcement greets you at your destination, follow the directions of the law enforcement officer.
- If law enforcement does not greet you, allow the students to disembark without issue and notify the school administration immediately.

Concealed Gun – Don'ts

- Do not attempt to disarm the student.
- Do not panic or draw attention to the suspected student.
- If the student attempts to leave the bus, let him/her.
- Do not fail to notify school and transportation administration.

Student Possessing a Gun

Gun Displayed



Displayed Gun

- Be calm.
- Don't be a hero.
- Don't try to disarm the gunman.
- If the student attempts to leave the bus, let him/her.

Hostage Situations



Hostage Pre-Test

- True or False: Today, most school districts have a Crisis Intervention Plan to respond to a school hostage situation.
- False
- True or False: If I were involved in a hostage situation, I would know the basic things to do and not to do.
- We'll see

Hostage Pre-Test

- True or False: Over 89% of all hostage-related situations result in no one getting hurt, including the hostage taker.
- True
- True or False: If the students or the bus driver sense the right opportunity, they should try to overcome the hostage taker.
- False

Hostage Pre-Test

- True or False: School related hostage situations are likely to increase nationally.
- True
- True or False: The right school security plans can almost insure prevention of a hostage-taking situation.
- False

Hostage Pre-Test

- True or False: Urban and larger schools are more likely to experience a hostage situation.
- False
- True or False: The primary goal of a hostage negotiator or SWAT team is to take out the hostage taker at the right opportunity.
- False

School Bus Hostage Video

Miami-Dade School
District



Active Listening Skills

- Minimal Encouragements
 - Use simple phrases like “I see” and “I understand.”
 - Nod your head.
- Paraphrasing
 - Rephrase the captor’s words with words of your own.
- Emotion Labeling
 - State the obvious.

Active Listening Skills

- **Mirroring**
 - Echo the captor's last few words.
- **Open-Ended Questions**
 - Don't use "Why" questions.
 - "What is it that happened?" "Can you help me understand what has upset you?" "What are you hoping for?"
- **"I" Messages**
 - Communicate your own feelings.
- **Effective Pause**
 - Encourages the captor to talk.

Survival Tips

- **Do not panic!** Remain calm and under control. Help to keep the students calm. Avoid quick movements.
- **Follow the instructions of the hostage taker(s)** and inform your students to do so as well.
- **Do not try to be a “hero/heroine”** by attacking or trying to disarm the attacker. (The same is true for your students.)

Survival Tips

- **Don't bargain or try to negotiate** with the hostage taker; this is the responsibility of the trained professionals.
- **Make certain you keep an up-to-date seating chart.**
- **Follow any instructions of the law-enforcement** hostage negotiator.
- **Do not radio for assistance**, unless you are instructed to use the radio by the hostage taker.

Survival Tips

- **Have a known code** word that is used for hostage situations in case you are permitted to relay a message to the person in charge of Transportation.
- If the hostage taker allows any students off the bus, **write down their names** and where they got off if possible.
- **Do not offer yourself as a hostage.**

Survival Tips

- Treat the hostage taker(s) as normally as possible.
 - Ask permission to speak.
 - Face him or her when speaking.
 - Don't crowd his or her space.
 - Be respectful.
 - Don't argue and don't make suggestions.

Survival Tips

- Do not get physical.
- Do not stare.
- Listen calmly.
- Do not interrupt.
- Do not make promises you can't honor.
- Do not be argumentative.
- Do not try to escape leaving the children behind.

Survival Tips

- Show empathy.
- Humanize yourself and the children (eye contact).
- The captor thinks he/she has a legitimate problem. Don't minimize it.

Identification

- Physical characteristics: height, weight, age, hair, sex, scars, tattoos, race, type of clothing, bags
- Weapons: handgun, rifle, shotgun, automatic, explosive device, knives

On-board Procedures

- Turn on your emergency flashers if you can.
- Turn on interior and overhead lights.
- Open windows.
- If you are told to stop, park near a building or group of trees, so law enforcement can hide their approach.
- Keep microphones keyed open.

Fights on the Bus Video



What Should You Do?

- Verbal intervention.
- Find a safe place to pull off the road.
- Radio for assistance.
- Verbal intervention.
- Don't put yourself at risk of injury.
- Don't ask another student to intervene.
- Do what a prudent adult would do.

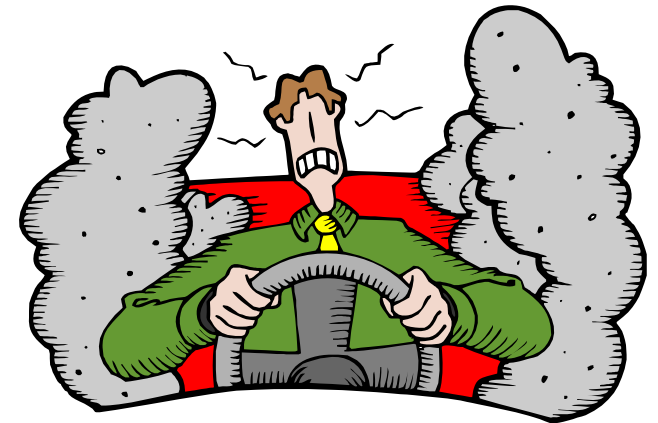
Fight For Your Rights Video



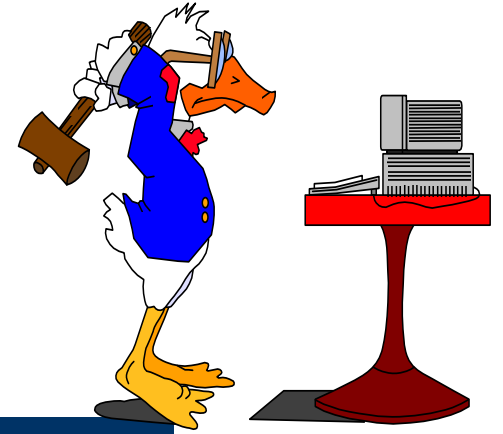
Early Warning Signs

If a young person displays more than 4 of the following behaviors, they may need help:

- Has a history of tantrums and uncontrollable angry outbursts.
- Characteristically resorts to name-calling, cursing or abusive language.
- Displays cruelty to animals.



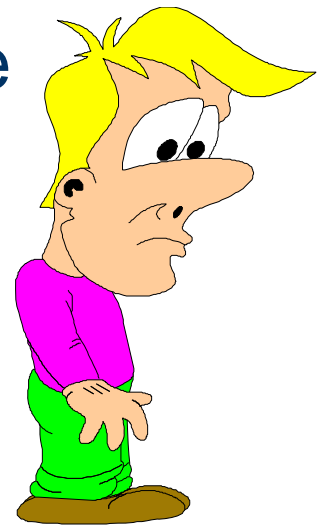
Early Warning Signs



- Is preoccupied with weapons, explosives or other incendiary devices.
- Has a background of serious disciplinary problems at school and in the community.
- Has a background of drug, alcohol or other substance abuse or dependency.
- Is on the fringe of his/her peer group with few or no close friends.

Early Warning Signs

- Has previously been truant, suspended or expelled from school.
- Has little or no supervision and support from parents or a caring adult.
- Has witnessed or been a victim of abuse or neglect in the home.
- Has been bullied and/or bullies or intimidates peers or younger children.



Early Warning Signs



- Tends to blame others for difficulties and problems he/she causes his/herself.
- Consistently prefers TV show, movies or music expressing violent themes and acts.
- Prefers reading materials dealing with violent themes, rituals and abuse.
- Reflects anger, frustration and the dark side of life in school essays or writing projects.

Early Warning Signs

- Is involved with a gang or an antisocial group on the fringe of peer acceptance.
- Is often depressed and/or has significant mood swings.
- Has threatened or attempted suicide.
- Has previously brought a weapon to school.
- Habitually makes violent threats when angry.



Break the Code of Silence



Break the Code of Silence

- 92% of all firearms confiscated in schools last year were found because a student told a responsible adult.
- All students must have an adult they can trust and a sense of responsibility for the safety of themselves & others.



Safety is an Attitude

- Safety is not something you can take or leave alone.
- It is not an activity that is participated in.
- Only when one is being watched or supervised.
- Safety is not posters, slogans or rules.
- Nor is it moneys, meetings, investigations or inspections.
- Safety is an attitude.
- It is a frame of mind.
- It is the awareness of one's environment.
- And actions all day, every day.
- Safety is knowing what can injure anyone or anything.
- Knowing how to prevent injuries and then acting to prevent it.

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The End

