

Dear Families,

In addition to always working to provide our children with the best education possible, our entire staff places their safety and well-being in our classrooms, on our grounds, and in transit as a top priority.

The district transports nearly 13,000 students every day on a bus fleet of over 160 vehicles. Due to an outstanding cadre of drivers, training, vehicle maintenance, and your children's cooperation, we are able to do so with few incidents. We want to remind everyone of the critical importance of wearing seatbelts to reduce the risk inherent in a moving vehicle.

New Jersey Statute Title 39:3B-11 states:

"Each passenger on a school bus which is equipped with seat belts shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened seat belt or other child restraint system that is in conformity with applicable federal standards at all times while the bus is in operation. Nothing in this section shall make the owner or operator of a school bus liable for failure to properly adjust and fasten a seat belt or other child restraint system that is in conformity with applicable federal standards for a passenger who sustains injury as a direct result of the passenger's failure to comply with the requirement established by this section."

Each of our buses has a prominent sign highlighting this procedure, and our drivers will continue to remind students when they board the bus to be seated and fasten their seatbelts. We feel confident that you ask the same of them when they are in a family car, and it is just as important on the ride to and from school on a district vehicle.

Toms River Regional Schools