

School Bus Lap/Shoulder Belt Procedure

The safety of students is one of WCCS' highest priorities. This includes safe transportation on our school buses. School buses currently use compartmentalization as the safety standard, which minimizes impact and injury should a collision occur, and three-point lap/shoulder (safety) belts in new buses, as of October 2019. If a bus is equipped with safety belts, all riders are required to wear safety belts when on the bus.

The following procedures apply to all buses equipped with lap/shoulder belts:

1. All school bus drivers who operate a school bus that is equipped with safety belts shall provide instruction to passengers on the proper fastening of the safety belt once each semester.
2. During the first week of school, drivers will instruct students as they board the bus to put on their seat belts.
3. In the afternoon when all students have boarded the bus, the school bus driver will walk down the aisle to confirm that all students have fastened their safety belts. If there is a bus monitor on the bus, this person will be responsible for the seat belt check.
4. The school bus will not leave until every student is seated with his or her safety belt fastened.
5. Students are responsible for putting the seat belt on and fastening it immediately upon boarding the bus.
6. Students must remain seated and keep the seat belt fastened for the duration of the bus ride.
7. Students should not remove their safety belts until the bus has come to a complete stop.
8. Failure of the student to comply with the seat belt procedure will result in parents being contacted by the driver. If, after the driver speaks with the parent, the student again refuses to wear a safety belt, he/she will be suspended from the bus for at least one day. If the student continues to refuse to wear the seat belt, he or she may be suspended for up to one year from bus transportation.
9. The student and parent will be responsible for the cost of vandalized seat belts and seats.