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October 5, 2023	()	Action Required
	(X)	Informational

BULLETIN NO. 067-23 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents

School District Superintendents School Safety Patrol Coordinator

School District Transportation Administrators

Regional Transportation Coordinators

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: School Bus Safety Week, October 16–23, 2023

CONTACT: Kim Kimbler, Administrative Program Specialist

kim.kimbler@k12.wa.us, 360-725-6123

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

This year's National School Bus Safety Week is October 16–23, 2023. Established in 1966, by the National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT), the National Association for State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS), and the National School Transportation Association (NSTA), this important event is intended to call attention to school bus safety and promote school bus transportation. This year's theme is: *Safely Rolling to My Destination*.

Washington state is known nationwide for its outstanding Pupil Transportation program, and almost half of Washington's public-school students ride school buses to and from school every day. Across Washington state, school district transportation departments ensure students arrive at school safe and ready to learn. Because of this dedication by transportation departments and the 10,000 authorized school bus drivers, Governor Jay Inslee has proclaimed October 16–23, as "School Bus Safety Week" in Washington state. An electronic copy of the Governor's proclamation is attached to this bulletin.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction encourages districts to plan events and work with local media to promote school bus safety week. It is an opportune time to focus on the safety record of school buses, as well as educate the motoring public in safely and legally sharing the road with school buses.

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Media resources and suggested activities can be found on <u>NAPT's National School Bus Safety</u> <u>Week</u> website.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Questions concerning school bus safety week may be directed to Kim Kimbler, Administrative Program Specialist, at kim.kimbler@k12.wa.us or at 360-725-6123. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This information is also available on OSPI's Bulletins website.

Tennille Jeffries-Simmons Chief of Staff

T.J. Kelly Chief Financial Officer

Patti Enbody Director, Student Transportation and Traffic Safety Education

CR:kmk

Attachment: School Bus Safety Week Proclamation

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