

ACCIDENT PREVENTION PLAN DEFENSIVE DRIVING SAFETY KNOWLEDGE REVIEW AND RATING SHEET

Safety Knowledge Interview

1. Who is defensive driver?

A driver who drives getting the big picture. Driving with their eyes at least 12-15 seconds ahead!! The driver then can make adjustments in their driving to allow for the mistakes of other drivers, by doing this an accident will be avoided.

2. Name the three things that most influence a driver's action?

- 1. The vehicle one drives*
- 2. The road condition*
- 3. The driver's attitude*

3. Of the three, which is most important?

The driver's attitude

4. Name some things that could adversely affect a defensive driver's ability to be prepared to drive?

Driving while taking certain medications

Driver distractions (cell phone, texting, eating, drinking, all driver distractions)

Not feeling well physically, mentally, emotionally

5. How does "how you feel" affect your driving skills?

This will "increase" a driver's reaction time. No one will ever be in an accident if they have time to react.

6. What driving adjustments should be made when you do not feel completely "up to par"?

Slow down 5 miles per hour under the posted speed limits. This will give you more time to react!!

7. Which of the following seeing habits are most important when driving?

(a) Concentrate on the long view—hazards far ahead

(b) Concentrate on the short view—hazards in the immediate surroundings

(c) Both the long and short views

8. When driving defensively, what can be done about possible hazards ahead?

This allows for the driver to slow down and warn traffic behind them they are going to be stopping. This prevents chain reaction rear end accidents. If possible go another route. Always communicate with your district when going alternative route!!!!

9. Each driver is expected to Pre-trip the vehicle one normally drives. Why is it even more important to check out an unfamiliar vehicle?

This allows the driver to know where all necessary controls are located

10. As you drive in the traffic flow, how can you provide sufficient space to stop or change lanes?

The school bus driver must drive their bus with a four second following distant

11. (a) Under normal driving conditions, describe the method used to determine if an adequate space cushion exists between your vehicle and the one ahead.

The driver will choose a landmark of some sort ahead. When the vehicle in front of you passes the landmark you begin your count, one thousand one, two, three, four. You should now be at your landmark.

(b) What is the recommended space cushion at night or on unfamiliar roads?

5 second following condition

(c) What is the recommended space cushion when weather conditions are bad?

Double your space cushion!!!

12. When coming to a stop behind another vehicle, how can you determine if an adequate space cushion exists between your vehicle and the one ahead?

Conventional:

You must be able to see the rear wheels and the ground under the wheel of the vehicle ahead

Transit:

Stop in a position that if necessary you could go around the vehicle ahead

13. After passing another vehicle, how do you determine when it is safe to return to your lane?

When you can see the headlights if the vehicle you passed using your flat side mirrors

14. What precautions should be taken when approaching a pedestrian?

Slow down!! All of your school bus riders are pedestrian until you get them safely on your bus

15. How can you tell if you are in the blind spot of a car travelling ahead of you, to your right or left

If you cannot see their mirrors they cannot see you

16. How would you discourage a tailgater?

Slow down

Tap your brakes

When "possible" allow them to pass you

The key word is "possible"

17. (a) In proper order, explain how you should approach an intersection which is not controlled by a traffic sign or signal?

Slow down – never over drive your vision

Foot off the gas pedal – covering the brake

18. (b) If your vision is obscured by other vehicles, buildings, or other obstructions near the intersections, how would you change your approach?

Slow down even more!!!

70% of our school bus accidents happen in or around an intersection

19. How would you approach an intersection where the green light has been on for a while?

Slow down

Be prepared to stop if green light should change

20. How would you safely make a left turn in traffic?

Pull your school bus part way into intersection keeping your wheels straight

When traffic clears make your turn

21. What could you do instead of making a left turn at a dangerous intersection?

Because of the volume of traffic in city environments you might make all right turns going around the block

22. (a) How should a vehicle be positioned to prevent a backing accident?

Always back your school bus when children are not in the area!!!

(b) When there is no alternative and you have to back your vehicle, describe the steps to be taken to avoid a backing accident?

Check your "local policy", if there is no policy always have an adult to direct your path outside the bus

23. (a) Why is it a law that restraint devices be used while operating a school bus?

This protects the driver. You do not have compartmentalization around the driver's seat. This will also keep you in the driver's seat in an evasive maneuver.

(b) Why does the student not need restraint devices?

They are protected by compartmentalization. There may be seat belts in all school buses in the future

24. If you were to tell a school bus driver some safety consideration about the following loading procedures, what would they be?

Approaching the stop:

Slow down. You should have students waiting in the driver designated place of safety

While stopped:

Count the children twice, in the morning and afternoon!!!

Leaving the stop:

Check your mirrors, in proper sequence

25. FMVSS111 is the standard regarding the field of vision for front mirrors on school buses.

Will these mirrors eliminate all the blind spot problems? Explain your answer.

NO NO NO!!! Your mirrors can be properly adjusted and you not be able to see children in danger zone

How many cones are in the mirror grid by this standard?

16 cones

26. In ideal conditions, what is considered a "safe following distance" when traveling at:

(a) 30 miles per hour:

4 seconds

(b) 45 miles per hour:

5 seconds , you must add one second if your speed is above 40 mph

27. You are discharging students, and you hear the siren of an emergency vehicle. What should you do?

Warn the children by blowing the horn!

28. What are some advantages of having “driver designated place of safety” at the unloading zone?

You will be able to see all of your students

This allows the school bus driver to count the students a second time

29. Explain Ohio Revised Code 4511.75-E and 3301-83-13, The most important law of bus driving.

The school bus riders must be allowed the time to get to their residence side at the appointed driver place of safety

30. Because bus drivers are educators, what things should you be teaching to make “defensive walkers” out of your passengers?

The students should be taught by drivers and school districts to always be cautious when walking to and from the school bus stops!!

31. What should the bus driver do every time before moving the bus from the bus stop?

Count the children twice

Make sure they stay at their place of safety until the school bus leaves

Count your mirrors in proper sequence

32. Explain why the overhead mirror might be the most dangerous piece of equipment on the school bus.

The school bus driver sometimes disciplines students through the mirror while driving. This is a very dangerous practice. This can lead to an accident. Avoid discipline through the mirror. Stop at a safe place if you need to discipline students on your school bus

33. Why do you need to be a “rocking chair” bus driver?

The school bus has blind spots caused by your mirrors. You must rock back and forward to look around your mirrors.