

Attitude, Distraction, Disaster!

OPTA

South Willamette Valley Chapter

Winter Workshop 2009

School Bus vs. Train



Who Wins?

Railroad Crossings

- Greatest driving hazard in terms of mass casualties.
- Crossing procedures:
 - Silence students & equipment (heaters, radio)
 - Check traffic control devices
 - Stop no CLOSER than 15 feet from nearest rail and no FARTHER than 50 feet from the nearest rail
 - Open service door and driver's window – LOOK & LISTEN!
 - When you are 100% sure no train is approaching, shift into gear that will carry you across the tracks without hesitation. LOOK & LISTEN a second time, close door and proceed quickly and smoothly across the tracks. Manually shifting gears while on the tracks is illegal.
 - Multi-track crossings:
 - Make certain a train is not approaching on any of the tracks before you cross
 - After a train passes, wait until ALL other tracks become visible before crossing. A second train could be coming from the opposite direction.
 - Local Policy

Railroad Crossings

- Flagman at crossing
 - Follow directions after making your safety stop
- Student Stops
 - Students should never be loaded or unloaded while you are stopped at a railroad crossing
- Show video – Operation Lifesaver (16 min. 45 sec.)
 - Optional – show entire Operation Lifesaver video (30 min. 02 sec.)

Getting/Maintaining Your Mental Focus

- You must be “Spot-On” when you step behind the steering wheel of the bus
- Have a clear head
 - Be rested and free from fatigue
 - Leave personal matters at home
 - Be free from the effects of drugs, medication, or alcohol
 - Cannot consume while on duty or within 8 hours before going on duty to operate a pupil transporting vehicle
- Local Policy
- Show video – Getting/Maintaining Your Mental Focus
(44 min. 10 sec.)

Train/School Bus Disaster

- Show video – Mock Train/Bus Disaster (17 min. 24 sec.)
- Local Policy
 - Student Training
 - Emergencies
 - Evacuations
 - First Aid Objectives

Handling The Media

- Local Policy
 - Who is spokesperson?
 - What if you get cornered by the media?
 - Do's and Don'ts if you do get cornered
- Show video – Handling The Media (21 min. 15 sec.)

The Aftermath Of Crisis

- Driver's emotions
 - Decompression
 - Talk with others
 - Supervisor
 - Friends
 - Family
 - Seek help if needed
- Show video – *Aftermath Of Crisis* (17 min. 11 sec.)