

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend the following brief outline as a guide for the operation of a four-point pupil transportation system; namely, safety, adequacy, efficiency and economy.

1. Safety

To obtain the maximum of safety in the pupil transportation system, the school bus drivers should be carefully selected. They should also be thoroughly trained in the skills of the mechanical operations of the school bus.

The school bus drivers should be expected to have mechanical knowledge which will enable him to determine when mechanical defects are first beginning.

The school bus drivers should have a thorough understanding of the Virginia Motor Vehicle Laws, road signs and State and County Board Regulations pertaining to the safe and efficient operation of a school bus.

To further promote the safety of pupil transportation, each school bus should be carefully inspected by a competent mechanic at least once each month, using forms furnished by the State Board of Education for this purpose. This may best be achieved by setting up a schedule showing the date that each bus is expected to be brought to the shop for the monthly inspection, thereby avoiding overcrowded conditions in the shop in any one day, and thus enabling the mechanic to render the service necessary to keep the bus in safe operating condition.

Another important step in the safe transportation of school children may be brought about by using only vehicles bearing the color and lettered identification of a Virginia school bus, equipped with warning devices and other equipment required by Law and State Board of Education Regulations.