



# Welcome back to school!



**Be SMART. Be SAFE.**

## WALKING SAFELY:

- Walking to school promotes health, saves gas, saves time, and reduces traffic congestion around schools.
- STOP at the curb/edge of pavement, and look **LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT before crossing a street**. Always use designated crosswalks and pedestrian signals with a crossing guard, when available. Do not cross in front of a vehicle unless you know for sure the driver clearly sees you, and has come to a complete stop.

## BICYCLING SAFELY:

- Get ready to ride by putting on a properly-fitted helmet and doing a pre-ride ABC Quick check (air, brakes, chain and quick release) of the bike to make sure it is safe to ride.
  - **Be predictable!** Follow the rules of the road at all times.
  - **Be visible!** When cycling (or walking) in the daytime wear bright colors. During dawn, dusk and at night, use reflective gear (even on backpacks). Your bike should include front white headlights and rear red taillights in order to be more visible to drivers. Carry a flashlight.
  - **Be familiar** with your surroundings, and NEVER accept rides from strangers!

## DRIVING SAFELY:

- Obey all posted speed signs.
- When stopping, standing, or parking your vehicle, please use the designated areas only.
- Buckle Up - and Don't Text and Drive!

## RIDING BUSES SAFELY:

### School Bus Safety Tips - for children:

- When walking to a bus stop, use sidewalks if available. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left facing traffic.
- Never speak to strangers at the bus stop or get into a stranger's car.
- Wait for the bus to arrive. Watch for the red flashing lights and the Stop arm to extend.
- When riding in a bus, always wear your seatbelt, obey the driver, and - when exiting the bus to cross the street - cross *in front* of the bus so the bus driver can see you. Do not dart into the next lane of traffic without checking!

### School Bus Safety Tips - for drivers:

- Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm signal indicate the bus is stopped and that children are getting on or off. All cars must stop a safe distance away and not proceed until the red lights stop flashing.

This safety message is brought to you by School Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman, District IV,  
In collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools,  
Your Local Community Traffic Safety Teams and its partners.

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