The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released a synopsis of a report related to two school bus crashes, one in Baltimore, Maryland, (November 1, 2016), and the second in Chattanooga, Tennessee, (November 21, 2016). As a result of the special investigation, the NTSB made safety recommendations directed toward the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, The National Highway Traffic Safety Administrations and the States. The final report and pertinent safety recommendation letters will be distributed to referenced recipients.

SUMMARY

School bus travel is one of the safest forms of transportation in the United States. Every day, nearly 600,000 buses carry more than 25 million students to and from school and activities. Children are safer traveling in school buses than in any other vehicle.

Although school buses are extremely safe, the NTSB continues to investigate school bus crashes in which fatalities and injuries occur. Improved oversight of school bus drivers and enhancements to school bus design—such as installation of passenger lap/shoulder belts, electronic stability control, and automatic emergency braking—could prevent or mitigate such crash outcomes.

In November 2016, the NTSB began the investigation of two multi-fatality school bus crashes. Each crash was initiated when the driver lost control of the school bus. Although the specific safety issues differed, the crashes shared one common factor: poor driver oversight by both the school districts and the contracted motor carriers, which resulted in unsafe operation of the school buses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Overview of Specific Recommendations: A total of 16 recommendations that address the specific findings are discussed in the report. This is just a sampling of the most general recommendations.

To the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration:
- Provide explicit guidance to encourage certified medical examiners to request a complete list of current medical conditions and medications when obtaining supplemental information from a commercial driver’s treating health-care provider.

To the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:
- Require all new school buses to be equipped with collision avoidance systems and automatic emergency braking technologies.

To the states of Florida, Louisiana, New Jersey, and New York:
- Amend statutes to upgrade the seat belt requirement from lap belts to lap and shoulder belts for all passenger seating positions in new large school buses in accordance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 222.

To Pennsylvania and the remaining States, Commonwealths, and Territory that do not currently have a law requiring seat belts on school buses:
- Enact legislation to require that all new large school buses be equipped with passenger lap and shoulder belts for all passenger seating positions in accordance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 222.

To the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, National Association for Pupil Transportation, National School Transportation Association, American School Bus Council, and Maryland School Bus Contractors Association:
- Inform members of the circumstances of the Baltimore, Maryland, school bus crash and lessons learned from the crash investigation to help raise awareness of the avenues available to report school bus drivers with medical conditions that may make it unsafe for them to operate a school bus.
Recreation Vehicles (RVs) & Child Passengers

Recreational Vehicles (RVs) and summer travel may not be safe for children who need to be appropriately secured when riding in a vehicle. Although RVs come in a range of style classes (A, B, C, C+, etc.) and vary in suitability, none are ideal for families with young children. People may have a false sense of security because of the size of an RV. But bigger is not necessarily safer with RVs. Before traveling with a child in an RV, learn the risks and choose the best alternative.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration does not crash test RVs and seat belt requirements do not apply to vehicles that weigh more than 10,000 pounds. This includes class A, C and C+ RVs. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208 (FMVSS 208) - Occupant Crash Protection Standard, as relates to “Motor Homes” (Recreational Vehicles) states that rear designated seats in motor homes are excluded from the rear lap/shoulder belt requirements AND the rear seats in Light Truck and Vans carrying chassis mount campers with a weight between 8,500 and 10,000 pounds would need to be equipped with a lap belt only. Since Class-B RVs weigh between 6,000 and 8,000 pounds, they are not covered by the requirement. Some manufacturers voluntarily meet the FMVSS 208 standard.

The safety of rear passengers (including children) is uncertain due to variations in meeting FMVSS seat belt requirements and lack of crash testing.

- During a collision, wooden benches and cabinets can break apart, and equipment and storage materials can become projectiles causing injury to passengers.
- Child safety restraint systems (car seats and booster seats) are NEVER be used in rear-facing or side-facing bench seating in any RV.
- All RVs (Class A, B, C, C+, or non-motorized tow-able RV’s) are high-profile vehicles, so they are restricted during high wind conditions and carry significant risks when making sharp turns and backing.

Safety Tips for RV Travel

- Safely accommodate all passengers in the appropriate seat belt, car seat, or booster seat every time you are driving.
- Choose an RV that meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 208.
- Car seats and booster seats are only approved for use on a forward-facing vehicle seat using either a seat belt or LATCH.
- Check in the cab of the RV for seating positions that are appropriate for installing car seats.
- Do not sit on side-facing or rear-facing benches when the RV is moving.
- Tow the RV or drive a second car.

- If there is not enough safe seating positions for everyone, bring a second vehicle or rent a tow-behind style RV.
- Use a towable RV (fifth wheeler, trailer, truck camper as pictured above) where children can ride properly secured in the towing vehicle. Make sure the driver is experienced with towing a trailer.
- If you were planning to tow a car, consider driving the car with your children secured in their car seats instead of traveling with children in the RV.
- Do Not distract the driver who must focus on the road.

- RVs have a longer stopping distance, maneuver differently and take longer to avoid road hazards.


2018 Volkswagen Atlas Recalled for Car Seat Issue


The problem: The center and adjacent outboard seat belt buckles on the second row can become damaged if a car seat base that is wider than 12.6 inches is installed. A damaged seat belt buckle can release unexpectedly, increasing the risk of injury in a crash.

The fix: NHTSA says that VW dealers will inspect the center and left outboard seat belt buckles and replace them if necessary, free of charge. The automaker will also provide an owner's manual supplement that addresses child safety and child restraints.

How to contact the manufacturer: VW will contact owners of affected vehicles starting Aug. 3, 2018. Owners may call 800-893-5298.

NHTSA campaign number: 18V380000. Volkswagen's own number for this recall is 69X1.
PA TIPP 2018 Child Passenger Safety Technical Update

The PA TIPP 2018 CPS Technical Update includes 5 segments and has been pre-approved for 6 CPS CEUs. An outline of the CPS Technical update is below. Participating in the class earns the required 6 hours of continuing education for CPS Recertification. A certificate of attendance will be given as proof of attendance in case of an audit. The PA TIPP staff will be scheduling classes across the State. Scheduled classes will be posted on the website. If you are interested in a class in your area, please contact your Regional Coordinator or the PA TIPP office at 1-800 CAR BELT.

CPS Best Practice:

- Review of the Rear-facing Until 2 studies:
  - Discuss “Car Safety Seats for Children Rear-facing for Best Protection” Injury Prevention 2007
  - AAP Policy Statement and NHTSA Guidelines for Rear-facing
  - Dorel Testing and their decision not to provide a rear-facing until age 2 in their instructions
  - Discuss RF vs FF CRs: An Updated Assessment in 2017 and messaging for technicians.
- Angel Ride car bed discontinued and discuss options for children who need to be transported lying down.
- Manufacturer’s Alliance for CPS Harmonized Statements

CPS Then and Now:

Provide excerpts from CR instruction manuals and Manufacturer FAQs that address the following:

- 80/20 rule;
- Towels and Pool Noodle Use;
- Crotch Roll Use and Side Rolls for Positioning;
- RF Tether;
- FF CR Contact with Vehicle Seat Back;
- Locking clips, Lock-offs, & Tensioning Plates;
- Inflatable Seat Belts;
- Car Seat Testing & FMVSS 213;
- Seat Belt and Lower Anchor Use Together;
- Seat Pads/Seat Protectors

Other Vehicles: Travel Risks and What Parents Need to Know

- Aircraft Travel: FAA Regulations, car seat labels, harness car seats and installation, Disclosure of Seat Dimension by plane type, CARES installation and use, prohibited restraints and products, Passengers with disabilities, application for exemptions, MACPS Harmonized Statement for CRS gate checked or checked as luggage.
- Recreational Vehicles: Classes and Types of RVs, FMVSS & regulations regarding occupant protection systems, injury risks for passenger sitting in the rear of the RV, MACPS Harmonized Statement on Car Seats and RVs; Review of safe travel options for children.

Boosters on the Go:

- Baby Trend Yumi;
- Bubble Bum;
- Chicco Kid Fit;
- Dorel Incognito;
- Graco Turbo Booster TakeAlong;
- Mifold;
- Nuna AACE;
- Peg Perego Viaggio Flex;
- Ridesafer Delighter Booster seat;
- Safety 1st Boost-A-Pak;
- IIHS Jasper;
- Securing A BPB with LATCH;

CR Update/Fact or Fiction:

- Highlight car seats that recently entered the market: Britax Endeavour line, Chicco My Fit, Cybex Sirona M, Dorel Maxi Cosi Magellan, Safe Parenting Doona
- The Evenflo red tether connector and the Evenflo and Graco new lower anchor connectors

Safe Ride News CEU Quizzes Now Automated

Safe Ride News (SRN) recently upgraded the format of two of its most popular ways to provide CEU opportunities, The LATCH Manual and School Bus Safety Handbook quizzes.

Those with access to either book can go to www.saferidenews.com to take an associated quiz in order to earn one CEU. Formerly, the quiz-taker was instructed to print off the quiz and send it in as an email attachment for grading. Now, the quiz is automated, so grading is done immediately online.

The quiz questions are unchanged, and a score of at least 80 percent (16 out of 20) is still required in order to earn credit. There are many advantages to the automated version. In addition to the ease of submission and quick feedback, SRN has added instructional comments to each question, so whether a question is answered correctly or not, the quiz-taker will have instant feedback to enhance learning. SRN already promotes the quiz as a good way to learn about LATCH and use of the manual and expects that automation will further enhance that experience.


New Car Seats and Pickup Trucks Fact Sheet

A new Safe Ride News safety fact sheet that focuses on car seats and use in pickup trucks is available. It reviews regular-cab pickups, extended cab pickups and crew-cab pickups with tips on how to successfully use car seats in each situation. Other features include information on tethering and limited seat space. It is a great resource for families transporting children in pickups.

If you would like a copy(ies) of the fact sheet, you can submit your request to Angela Osterhuber at aosterhuber@paaap.org.
Certification Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berks County</td>
<td>PA201801028</td>
<td>August 6-9, 2018</td>
<td>8:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>920 Van Reed Road, Reading Berks, PA 19601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venango County</td>
<td>PA2018050355</td>
<td>October 9-11, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1760 S. Easton Rd. Center, PA 15601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union County</td>
<td>PA2018010314</td>
<td>October 23-26, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>4840 Broadway, Aliquippa, PA 15101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland County</td>
<td>PA2018061169</td>
<td>September 25-28, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>1200 Good Hope Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 15776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>PA20180602677</td>
<td>October 16-20, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1740 Broadway, Wilkes Barre, PA 18701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington County</td>
<td>PA20180604634</td>
<td>December 10-13, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>244 E. McCreary Rd., Weinstein, PA 15309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana County</td>
<td>PA20180604633</td>
<td>October 18-19 &amp; 25-26, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1200 S. Easton Rd. Center, PA 15601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lehigh County</td>
<td>PA20180603523</td>
<td>August 23, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>101 West Main St., Allentown, PA 18104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>PA20180604634</td>
<td>September 13, 2018</td>
<td>9:30 am - 3:30 pm</td>
<td>144 W. Schuylkill Road, Pottstown, PA 19465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>PA20180606639</td>
<td>October 2, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1740 Broadway, Wilkes Barre, PA 18701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montour County</td>
<td>PA20180606639</td>
<td>October 4, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1200 S. Easton Rd. Center, PA 15601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucks County</td>
<td>PA20180604629</td>
<td>September 27-28</td>
<td>9:00 am - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>1760 S. Easton Rd. Doylestown, PA 18963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin County</td>
<td>PA20180603555</td>
<td>October 9-11, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>101 West Main St., Fayetteville, PA 17222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer County</td>
<td>PA20180606639</td>
<td>October 2, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1740 Broadway, Wilkes Barre, PA 18701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lehigh County</td>
<td>PA20180603523</td>
<td>August 23, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>101 West Main St., Rileyville, PA 17222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>PA20180604634</td>
<td>September 13, 2018</td>
<td>9:30 am - 3:30 pm</td>
<td>144 W. Schuylkill Road, Pottstown, PA 19465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>PA20180604632</td>
<td>July 1, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1200 S. Easton Rd. Center, PA 15601</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Renewal Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegheny County</td>
<td>PA20180604632</td>
<td>July 31, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1020 Lebanon Rd, Wilkins, PA 15222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>PA20180326412</td>
<td>August 14, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>4840 Broadway, Wilkes Barre, PA 18701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>PA20180606639</td>
<td>October 2, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1740 Broadway, Wilkes Barre, PA 18701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>PA20180604632</td>
<td>July 1, 2018</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>1200 S. Easton Rd. Center, PA 15601</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 CPS Technical Update:

- CPS Technical Update class is available upon request. Contact your TIPP regional coordinator to schedule a presentation in your region. Participation will earn 6 CPS CEUs toward recertification.
- The Municipal Police Officers’ Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) has approved the CPS Technical Update provides 6 Continuing Law Enforcement Education (CLEE) credit hours.

Update Course: Please RSVP if planning to attend. Class earns 6 CEUs toward CPS Recertification.