



**During your visit, you will:**

- Be able to watch a Winnie the Pooh school bus safety video.
- Learn how to ride the bus safely when the bus is travelling.
- Be shown how to safely enter and exit a school bus.
- Be able to experience a short school bus ride.
- Participate in an emergency evacuation.



**FIRST RIDER PARTNERS**



**Director of Transportation:** Corinne Varga  
**Transportation Coordinator:** Paula Spiller  
 403-227-7072



**Regional Director of Northern Alberta, B.C. & Yukon:** Scott Hucal  
**Operations Manager:** Kerri Kenworthy  
 403-342-6390



**Transportation Manager:** Shevon Medicraft  
**Assistant Transportation Manager:** Kelli Pickett  
 403-309-8801



**Transportation Coordinator:** Scott Humphrey  
 403-342-3724



**Transportation Manager:** Betty Clark  
**Assistant Transportation Manager:** Rod Mercer  
 403-785-0726



**Director of Transportation:** Kristen Disley  
**Prairie Bus Lines Rocky Mountain House & Drayton Valley:** 403-845-4255  
**First Student - Rimbey:** 403-843-6161  
**Wild Rose:** 403-845-3376



First Rider is an event that introduces young children and their parents to school bus safety. This event is important for those taking the school bus for the first time.

*All events run from 3:00 - 7:00 pm*

**Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
 École Secondaire Notre Dame High School • Red Deer

**Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
 École Deer Meadow School • Olds

**Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
 Gary Moe Sportsplex • Lacombe

**Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**  
 West Central High School - St Dominic High School • Rocky Mountain House

**Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
 Frank Maddock High School • Drayton Valley

Please plan to spend roughly 45 minutes with us. Parents must accompany their child throughout this event. There is no cost for attending.

# STAYING SAFE



## We ask parents/guardians to please:

- Review school bus safety rules with your child regularly.
- Become acquainted with your school bus driver. Your school bus driver can tell you about their responsibilities when driving and the safety features on the bus.
- Get to know the parents/guardians of other riders, so you know what students are riding with your child.
- Attend “back to school” events and take a tour of a school bus if you can.
- Address any concerns to your school division’s transportation department.
- Keep applicable school division’s transportation department phone number handy.

The top priority of all school divisions is to keep children safe on the school bus.

### **School buses are safe!**

School buses are among the safest vehicles on the road. The colour and size of school buses make them easily visible and identifiable.

The height of the school bus provides good driver visibility and the passenger compartments are above car impact height while the reinforced sides resist side impacts.

From the transportation department staff, to drivers and to mechanics, there are trained professionals looking after your child’s safety at every moment of the trip.

School bus drivers are among the most highly trained, tested and scrutinized drivers on the road.

All bus drivers must obtain a commercial driver’s license and must pass written and skills tests to earn a specialized School Bus Endorsement qualification.

Drivers also receive specialized classroom and behind-the-wheel training. In addition, drivers receive training in student loading/unloading procedures, student evacuation and student behaviour management.



School buses are the safest way to get to and from school each day.

There are a number of ways your child can be sure to have the safest ride possible:

- Be alert to traffic.
- Check both ways for vehicles before stepping off the bus or onto a curb.
- While waiting for the bus to arrive or leave, stay in a safe place away from the edge of the road.
- Never go back to retrieve something you’ve dropped near a school bus.

