



BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

The History of School Bus Drivers Day

The earliest school buses date back to the beginning of the 20th century, though horse-drawn carriages (whose purpose was to pick up children – especially from rural areas) were already popular several decades earlier. In 1927, Ford dealership owner A.L Luce produced a bus body for a 1927 Ford Model T that today's school buses still resemble – though current buses are much more modern and considerably larger.



The shade of yellow known today as “School Bus Yellow” was adopted as a standard color for North American school buses in 1939. Currently, school buses provide an estimated 10 billion student trips every year. Each school day in 2013, nearly 468,000 school buses transported 28.8 million children to and from school. School buses have played an enormous role in the education of children from low-income families from rural areas all over the world.

School Bus Drivers Day, created in 2009 by the California State Assembly, is a well-deserved salute in the direction of all those men and women who dedicate their lives to helping children get to school every day – while staying patient, helpful, and positive throughout. In Alberta, School Bus Driver Appreciation Day is recognized on the first Monday in May.

*adapted from www.daysoftheyear.com

We thank all of our amazing Elk Island Public Schools Bus Operators for everything you do!

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER:

You are sometimes the first smiling adult a child sees each morning and the last before they get home. You always brave the weather to get our kids safely where they need to be, while being a shining example as you do it.

#schoolheroes

teresa kwant



What We Appreciate Most About YOU!

Student Transportation staff put together a list of the things we appreciate most about our amazing Bus Operators:

- EIPS drivers are always willing to go the extra mile – whether it be returning a lost item to a student, staying at a stop to wait for a parent to get there, or coming back to a transfer site to help out another bus
- Drivers are always willing to follow our processes and procedures, and are always kind and pleasant on the radio
- Participation levels in training sessions are great
- EIPS drivers remain calm and professional during stressful times
- Students are treated with care and respect and drivers are patient and understanding

- There is an amazing comradery and teamwork between drivers
- Many drivers are always willing to deliver forgotten items to schools/homes
- EIPS drivers:
 - mentor new students
 - are reliable and consistent
 - easily adapt to change
 - show kindness to students/parents
 - are passionate about their job
 - truly care about the safety of the children
 - have built amazing relationships with students, parents, school admins, and ST staff

Positive Feedback

DEVLYNN (RT 123) - Devlynn went out of her way to return a pair of glasses to a student who forgot them on her bus on the last day of school before Spring Break. Way to go, Devlynn!

MICHELLE (RT 35) - Michelle is constantly going above and beyond. She is always pleasant on the radio and if a student forgets something on her bus she radios in to tell us she will bring it back to the stop before the parents can even contact us! Thanks, Michelle!

RAY (RT 75) - Ray noticed that a student with a transfer could've actually been on his (direct) bus and avoided having to switch buses. Ray let Student Transportation know and it was arranged for the child to be on a direct bus. The family was very grateful! Thanks, Ray!

MIKE (RT 143) - Multiple parents have told us that Mike is an amazing driver! We have heard from parents that they think he is great - very thorough, friendly, and truly cares about the well-being of the kids. Great work, Mike!



From all of us at Student Transportation, thank you for all that you do to get our kids to and from school safely!

We like how you ROLL!