



Education is every child's right!

We are **PIST** at how the NYCDOE routes special education school buses at the start of each school year.

Cuts = Chaos! Understaffing leads to overloaded routes, which cause children to miss classes, and cause unnecessary stress on families, educators and bus drivers/matrons.

Often, situations identified as unsafe by parents and drivers are not addressed until someone gets hurt. This is unacceptable!

Although some bus problems are temporarily resolved when parents complain to the Office of Pupil Transportation, we must keep up the pressure now to make lasting, system-wide improvements.

PIST has drafted a **School Bus Bill of Rights**, which we plan to present to Mayor Bloomberg, the Chancellor, and OPT Chief Goldstein.

We welcome your support—please contact us today!

www.pistnyc.org

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347.504.3310

(Se habla español)

Labor Donated 03/2011

Endorsers of the School Bus Bill of Rights:

Parents to Improve School Transportation
Amalgamated Transportation Union,
Local 1181

Penn South Parents Committee,
Chelsea

Anthony Curry, President, Challenge
Prep Charter School Parent Association,
Far Rockaway

Sara Catalinotto, UFT Delegate,
Lyons Community School, Williamsburg

Johnnie Stevens, UFT member,
Child Care Providers' Division

Communication Workers of America,
Local 1180

CWA Local 1180 People with
Disabilities Committee

Crystal Alfano, NYC Parents Fed Up with
Transportation Troubles

Margaret DePaula, retired Special Educator,
Wheelchair Advocate

Citywide Council on Special Education

Join PIST Today!

Donations welcome

Contact:

**Parents
TO
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Transportation**

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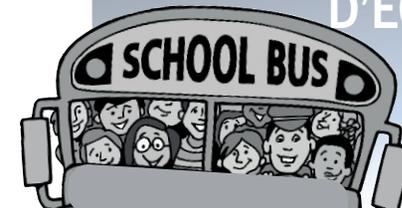
www.pistnyc.org

要改善學校巴士的家長

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المواصلات المدرسية

**PADRES
PARA MEJORAR
EL TRANSPORTE
ESCOLAR**

**PARENTS AU
PERFECTIONNEMENT
DU TRANSPORT
D'ECOLIERS**



**Parents
TO
improve
SCHOOL
Transportation**

NYC Children with and without disabilities need a

SCHOOL BUS BILL OF RIGHTS

We call on Mayor Bloomberg, the Chancellor, and the Office of Pupil Transportation under Deputy Chancellor Grimm to:

1. Plan ahead, prevent chaos—stop late summer layoffs!

Any vehicles that are underutilized on the first day of school will fill up soon enough, so get them ready and rolling with a full complement of workers.

2. Respect educational mandates for adequate supervision

On special education vehicles, student-to-adult ratios and the range of grades/disabilities grouped together should align with the limits that apply during the school day.

3. Stop creating route schedules that make disabled children consistently miss lessons in the morning and/or afternoon.

4. Respect physical and neurological needs of the children

- Enforce regulations on limited time travel and air conditioning.
- Minimize unsolicited changes in routine.



5. Simplify bus itineraries—limit the number of schools or dismissal times on each route.

6. SAFETY ABOVE ALL!

- Equip wheelchair vehicles with harnesses and headrests.
- Restore general education busing through 8th grade in Staten Island.
- Enforce mandate for schools to work with drivers and escorts to provide bus evacuation drills twice a year.
- Inspect for safety matters, not excuses to fine and harass bus workers.
- Study the feasibility of snow chains and other bad-weather needs.

7. Proactively inform parents and special educators on how to secure transportation rights on the Individualized Education Program

8. Improve communication about emergency and long-term changes

9. Empower a panel of elected representatives of organizations of parents, educators and bus workers to either approve or renegotiate OPT plans for achieving the above goals and more

10. Maintain an experienced, skilled and dedicated transportation workforce: Support the EPP (Mollen Agreement) bill in Albany

To endorse this effort, contact

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