

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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Comal ISD celebrates National School Bus Safety Week

Although Comal ISD's director of student transportation services Gus Rodriguez is making a point to celebrate National School Bus Safety Week Oct. 18-22, he's quick to point out safety is something his department focuses on all year long.

Members of the Comal ISD bus safety team will travel to each of the district's elementary schools this week to talk to students and drivers about bus safety. The team will also hand out cards that emphasize bus safety rules including never run for the bus, don't push or shove, always cross 10 feet in front of the bus and wait for the driver's signal before crossing.

"National School Bus Safety Week gives us a chance to emphasize some of the things we try and talk to students about all year long," Rodriguez said. "It's especially important to have students learn about bus safety at a young age because that's when you can really capture their attention."

Rodriguez said any time is good to talk about bus safety.



“I always encourage my drivers in our monthly meetings to go over some of the important rules with their students if they have a few extra minutes,” Rodriguez said. “We want drivers to talk to students about certain situations that may come up during bus rides and what students are supposed to do.”

Chequita Mannie, who has been a Comal ISD bus driver for 15 years, agreed safety is always the top priority.

“The main objective for all of our 150 drivers is to deliver our students to school and back home safely,” Mannie said. “We have a lot of meetings where we only talk about safety. Our district is extremely strict about the safety standards we practice, and that’s a very good thing.”

Comal ISD has also conducted bus evacuation training at each campus in recent years and has taken its handmade mini-bus, which comes equipped with working lights and signals, into elementary schools for extra safety lessons.

“Whether you’re a student or a driver, you can never have enough safety training,” Rodriguez said. “We will always continue to try and come up with as many different ways as we can to stress bus safety in Comal ISD.”

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IN PHOTOS: Comal ISD bus safety trainer Cyndi Henk hands out cards that emphasize bus safety rules at Oak Creek Elementary. It was part of National School Bus Safety Week, which runs Oct. 18-22. Pictured with Henk is OCES fifth grader Isaiah Rivera.

Oak Creek Elementary student Anthony Rodriguez follows one of the bus safety rules, holding onto the rails, while boarding his bus after school recently. Comal ISD is using National School Bus Safety Week Oct. 18-22 to emphasize some of the bus safety guidelines trainers and drivers talk to students about all year long.

