

Safety for Students on Public Transit

As an educator, parent or caregiver, you can help students feel safe and comfortable riding Metro Transit!

You can provide vital information and tools for students to help them respond appropriately and quickly if an uncomfortable or unsafe situation arises when they're riding Metro Transit. Metro Transit is committed to keeping buses and trains safe and has a code of conduct for all riders. The employees are trained to deal with security issues.

Help students feel empowered to ride the bus or the train with confidence with this safety information:

1

Ask the bus driver for help.

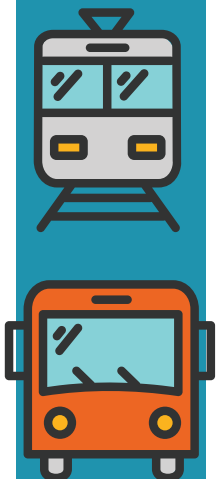
Metro Transit bus drivers are professional drivers. They have been trained in mental health awareness, personal safety, and de-escalation. Bus drivers also have direct contact with the Metro Transit police force and can radio for additional assistance should the need arise.



2

If a student doesn't have a cell phone and is riding the train, make sure they know there is an emergency intercom system available.

Emergency intercoms are located inside every train and at every train station that alert Metro Transit staff.



3

Identify other trusted adults.

If a student is feeling uncomfortable or unsafe on their transit commute, let them know they can discuss their concerns with a teacher or counselor at school. An adult in such a role can work with a student to create a plan tailored to their unique situation. The plan can include identifying other students who ride the same route who could act as a buddy or working on specific coping skills personalized to the unique individual. Key adults should also be able to provide guidance on how the student can ensure personal safety going forward.



4

Be Alert

Encourage students to develop self-awareness while using transit. Remind students to:

- Never walk or play on the train tracks.
- Cross the train tracks only at the designated crosswalks after looking both ways.
- Listen for horns and warning bells signaling that a train is nearby.
- Keep headphones at a low volume.
- Dress for the weather.
- Keep personal items close.
- Keep electronics stowed away
- For emergencies always call 911.



If a student doesn't feel comfortable calling 911 or is unsure if a situation is an emergency, they can use the Metro Transit Text for Safety feature at 612-900-0411 to report something that doesn't look right on the bus, train, or transit shelter.

Learn more about Move Minnesota
www.movemn.org

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