

What School Bus Drivers & School Bus Passengers Need To Do If A Power Line Falls On Or Near Their Bus



Bus Driver

If a school bus would happen to come in contact with a power line or if a power line is touching another vehicle close by, bus drivers should follow this protocol:

1. Assume all power lines are energized.
2. Call dispatch or 911 and tell them a power line is involved, you do not know if it is energized or not and that you have students on board.
3. If possible, stay on the bus. Do not allow anyone to leave the bus.
4. If you must leave the bus, the exit procedure is different than the usual exit procedure.
5. Only exit the bus if a power company employee confirms it is safe. Or if the bus is on fire or filling with smoke. Do not exit if there's only a little smoke and no indication of fire. Or if the bus is in a perilous position, such as leaning over a cliff, or it is likely to slip into a lake.
6. Tell emergency responders or other helpful people to stay away from the bus.
7. If you do have to exit the bus, tell the students that the exit procedure will be different. First, they must leave everything behind. They should not panic, they should be calm. They should go to the bottom step, fold their arms across their chest, put their feet together and bunny hop away, as far as they can – more than 30' if they can. No one may help any other student down.
8. If you have to use the rear exit, tell the students to sit down on the rear exit floor, put their feet together, push away from the bus and to land on their two feet. Tell them to bunny hop away, as far as they can.



School Bus Passengers

If a school bus would happen to come in contact with a power line or if a power line is touching another vehicle close by, school bus passengers should follow this protocol:

1. Follow the driver's direction.
2. If possible, stay on the bus.
3. If you must leave the bus, the exit procedure is different than the usual exit procedure. The driver will instruct you how to safely get out of the bus.
4. If you do have to exit the bus, leave all your stuff behind.
 - Do not panic.
 - Be calm.
 - Go the bottom step, fold your arms across your chest, put your feet together and bunny hop away, as far as you can.
 - Try to hop more than 30'.
 - No one should help any other student get off the bus.
5. If you have to use the rear exit:
 - Sit down on the rear exit floor, put your feet together, push away from the bus and land on your two feet.
 - Then, bunny hop away as far as you can.
 - Do not help any other student get off the bus.