

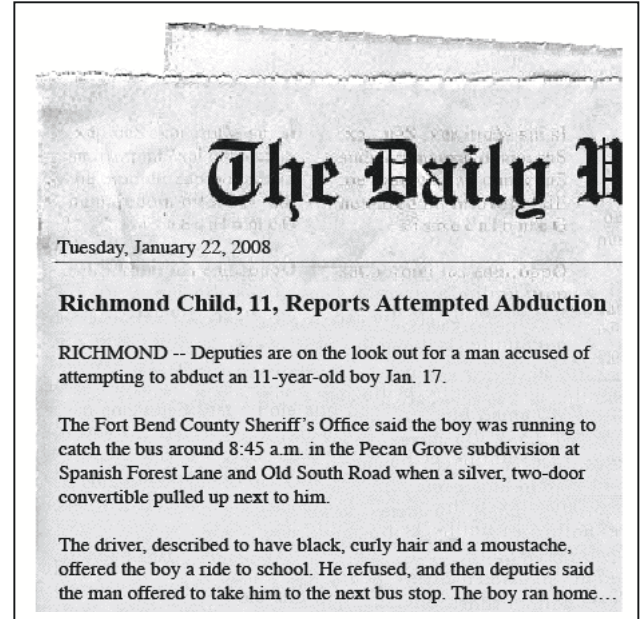
# SCHOOL BUS STOP SECURITY – STUDENT HANDOUT

## *The Dangers are Real*

School bus stops are usually very safe places for students, but in today's world, dangers do exist. Sadly, violence, gang activity and abductions have happened at or near school bus stops. And, the potential exists for a terrorist act involving school buses.

It is important for students to be aware of possible dangers at school bus stops, and to know what to do if you see someone or something that seems suspicious.

The information in this handout is not intended to frighten you; hopefully, the **3 STEPS TO SAFETY** will help you stay safe at and near your bus stop.



## **STEP # 1: BE AWARE OF DANGERS**

- First, be aware that these and other dangers can exist at or near the school bus stop: violence; abductions; bullying; hijacking

## **STEP # 2: KNOW WHAT TO WATCH FOR:**

- Suspicious people; odd behavior
- Strangers hanging around the stop
- Strangers offering you a ride
- Someone taking pictures
- Unusual packages left at the stop; packages with wires or leaking fluid
- Weapons
- Students or others talking about weapons or violence



## **STEP # 3: KNOW WHAT TO DO**



- If you see someone or something suspicious: Tell your school bus drivers; they have been trained to know what to do in an emergency – follow their directions in an emergency. Or, tell a trusted adult – your parents, teacher, principal, etc.

*Remember...YOU are an important part of safety at the school bus stop. You can play an active role in keeping you and your fellow students safe.*

**THE CHART ON THE NEXT PAGE WILL HELP YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IF THERE IS DANGER AT OR NEAR THE BUS STOP.**

<b>WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR:</b>	<b>WHAT TO DO:</b>	
	<p><b>A STRANGER AT THE STOP</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Tell your bus driver or attendant immediately.</li> <li>∞ Describe the person and the activity as best as you can.</li> <li>∞ Note the day and the time and if you've seen them there before.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>A STRANGER TRYING TO TALK TO YOU</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Do not talk with the person.</li> <li>∞ Move away from the person quickly.</li> <li>∞ Tell your bus driver or another adult.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>A STRANGER OFFERING YOU A RIDE</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Do not get into the stranger's car</li> <li>∞ Get away quickly</li> <li>∞ Tell a trusted person or your school bus driver or attendant right away.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>SOMEONE TAKING PICTURES</b> near the bus stop</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Tell your school bus driver or attendant immediately.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>GANG MEMBERS OR SIGNS OF GANG ACTIVITY</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Do not get off the bus</li> <li>∞ Tell your school bus driver immediately.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>BULLYING:</b> Students threatening, shoving, hitting or hurting you or others, stealing lunches, backpacks, books...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Tell the driver, school official, teacher or your parents.</li> <li>∞ Do not say anything directly to the bully.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>UNUSUAL PACKAGES OR WEAPONS:</b> Hidden, with or without wires or leaking fluid</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Don't touch the package.</li> <li>∞ Leave it where you found it.</li> <li>∞ Tell your bus driver or attendant immediately</li> <li>∞ Do not use your cell phone; it could set off a bomb.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>A WEAPON</b> on the bus, or in a student's (or someone else's) possession; or, you hear a student talking about weapons, or hurting someone.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>∞ Do not confront the person</li> <li>∞ Quietly tell the Bus Driver or Attendant immediately.</li> <li>∞ Tell your parents.</li> <li>∞ Tell a school official</li> </ul>