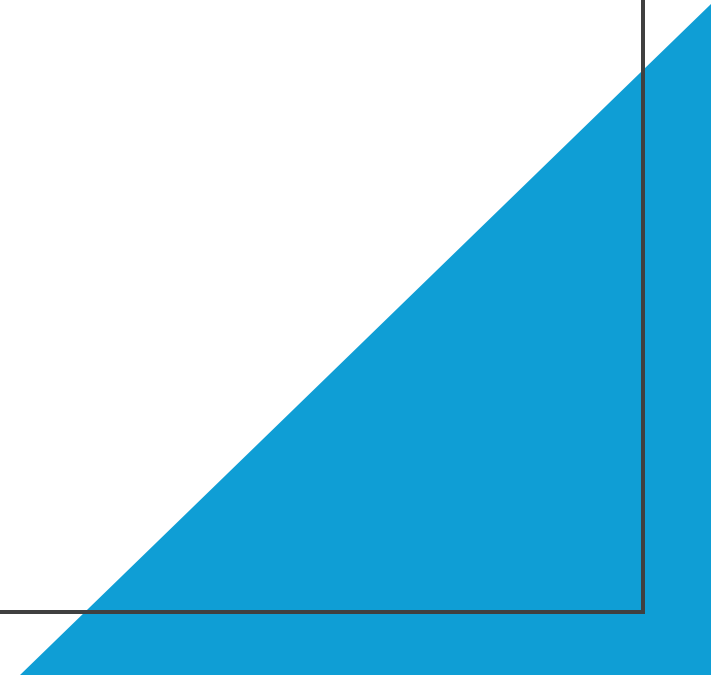




# **Multi-Function School Activity Bus (MFSAB) Safety**

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# MFSAB Safety Features



# What is an MFSAB?

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Used for **field trips, athletic events, extracurricular activities**

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Meets **school bus crash standards** but **no stop arm/flashing lights**

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Not used for daily student pick-up/drop-off



# Reinforced Structure

- Steel cage frame
- Complies with **FMVSS 220 & 221**
- Protects against rollovers and side impacts



# Compartmentalization

- High, padded seat backs
- Closely spaced seats for impact absorption
- Reduces injury risk in a crash





# High Visibility

- **Yellow or high-visibility color schemes**
- **Reflective tape** for low-light conditions





# Rub Rails

- **Horizontal steel rub rails at:**
  - Floor level
  - Seat level
  - Below window line
- Protects against side impacts
- Distributes force of impact





# Cross-view Mirrors

- Wide-angle mirrors reduce blind spots
- Enhance **driver awareness** around the bus





# Emergency Exits

- **Multiple exits:** rear door, side door, roof hatch
- Designed for **quick evacuation**



## Fire Safety Features

- Flame-retardant materials
- Fire extinguisher and first-aid kit





# VS



## MFSAB VS. Passenger Vans

- **Crash Standards:** MFSABs meet FMVSS for school buses, passenger vans do not
- **Seating:** MFSABs have compartmentalized, padded seating; vans have standard seats
- **Emergency Exits:** MFSABs have multiple exits; vans typically have fewer
- **Visibility:** MFSABs have high-visibility colors and reflective tape; vans do not
- **Structure:** MFSABs include a higher center, reinforced steel cage and rub rails; vans lack these features



# COMPLIANT VS. NON-COMPLIANT BUSES FOR TRANSPORTING SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN & STUDENTS



## NHTSA VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION

### "BUS, NOT A SCHOOL BUS"

### "SCHOOL BUS"

### "MULTI-FUNCTION SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUS"

NHTSA VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION	"BUS, NOT A SCHOOL BUS"	"SCHOOL BUS"	"MULTI-FUNCTION SCHOOL ACTIVITY BUS"
FMVSS 107 - REFLECTING SURFACES OUTLINING EMERGENCY EXITS	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS
FMVSS 108 - LAMPS, REFLECTIVE DEVICES, AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS
FMVSS 111 - REARVIEW MIRRORS, CROSS-OVER MIRRORS	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS
FMVSS 131 - SCHOOL BUS PEDESTRIAN SAFETY DEVICES	DOES NOT MEET	✓	✓
FMVSS 217 - BUS WINDOW RETENTION	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS	MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS
FMVSS 220 - SCHOOL BUS ROLLOVER PROTECTION	DOES NOT MEET	✓	✓
FMVSS 221 - SCHOOL BUS BODY JOINT INTEGRITY	DOES NOT MEET	✓	✓
FMVSS 222 - SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER SEATING AND CRASH PROTECTION	DOES NOT MEET	✓	✓
FMVSS 301 - SCHOOL BUS FUEL SYSTEM INTEGRITY	DOES NOT MEET	✓	✓

## The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

is the federal agency that dictates which **Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS)** must be met by various classes of vehicles. NHTSA defines a "bus" as any vehicle that transports 11 or more passengers including the driver. NHTSA has three classifications of buses and only two of the three are compliant for transporting school age children.

### The classifications are as follows:

- 1) Classification: Bus, Not a School Bus** - Vehicles that fall into this classification are vans, commercial buses, people movers, shuttle buses, motor coaches, etc. Buses with a rated capacity of 11 or more passengers under this classification are non-compliant for the use of transporting 11 or more school-age children to and from school and school related events. These vehicles do not meet the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) required for transporting school-aged students due to the lack of compartmentalization, side impact protection, roof rollover protection, additional brake and fuel system specifications, etc.
- 2) Classification: School Bus** – To meet the classification of a school bus, a vehicle must comply with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) set by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for a school bus. School buses are required to be yellow and equipped with flashing red and amber lights on both the front and rear caps, as well as a stop arm that is activated to stop traffic during fixed route applications. Fixed routes are defined as designated paths with multiple stops on residential roads to pick up and drop off students. Additional requirements for school buses include, but are not limited to, compartmentalization, steel cage rollover protection, fuel system integrity, passenger seating crash protection, and cross-over mirrors.
- 3) Classification: Multi-Function School Activity Bus (MFSAB)** – To meet the classification of a Multi-Function School Activity Bus (MFSAB), a vehicle is required to meet the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) defined by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for an MFSAB. MFSABs must meet the same required safety standards as a school bus with the exception that MFSABs cannot be painted "school bus" yellow and are not required to be equipped with flashing red and amber lights or a stop arm. MFSABs cannot be used to stop traffic and cannot be used in fixed route applications to drop off students on residential streets. The intended use of MFSABs is for transporting students to and from school or school-related events. This includes, but is not limited to, childcare pick-up and delivery, after-school programs, field trips, and other non-fixed route applications.

# Thanks for your time!

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