



Improving Climate on School Buses

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Travel Back in Time



Maneuvering the Bus and Managing Students

About 760,000 Minnesota students take the bus every school day



School Climate



Results of a Positive School Climate

Improves
Attendance

Improves
Student/Staff
Retention

Improves
Academic
Achievement

Increases
Graduation
Rates

Reduces
Discipline
Disparities

“Vehicles are one of the best modes of transportation. Relationships are one of the best vehicles of transformation.”

— Kate McGahan

Community on Wheels



Driving to improve bus climate



Bus environment filled with challenges

- Impersonal environment
- Students all sit facing forward
- Driver has back to students
- Cramped and uncomfortable space
- Students don't know each other

Traditional discipline doesn't work

Why?

- Only addresses a few behaviors
- Doesn't address hurtful behaviors that are not against the rules
- Misses opportunity to teach skills to manage conflict
- Left to chance

Safe School Bus Program

ISD 30 uses the *Peaceful School Bus Program*

It is a schoolwide program designed to:

- Decrease inappropriate behavior
- Create a climate of respect and cooperation
- Build strong relationships among students and driver

The *Peaceful School Bus Program* is published by Hazelden Foundation, a publisher of evidence-based prevention programs for K-12 schools. [Learn more about the *Peaceful School Bus Program*](https://www.hazelden.org/store/item/10078) <https://www.hazelden.org/store/item/10078>

Thank you!

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