

NISD TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

2026–2027 School Year Updates & Reminders

As we gear up for a successful new school year, please review these essential operational and safety updates. Your partnership is critical to keeping our buses running safely and efficiently.

1. **Seat Belt Compliance & Student Discipline (TEC § 34.013)**

Under **Texas Education Code § 34.013**, students **must wear a seat belt** whenever riding a district-operated or contracted bus equipped with seat belts.

- **Campus Authority:** The law explicitly grants districts authority to enforce seat belt use through disciplinary actions (e.g., detentions, bus suspensions).
- **Shared Responsibility:** Ensuring compliance requires close collaboration between **parents, bus drivers, and campus administration.**
- **Action Item:** Please support your bus drivers when seat belt infractions are referred to your office.

2. **NEW: Bus Video Request Form**

- A new standardized **Bus Video Request Form** is now live for campus administrators needing to review footage for student behavior or safety incidents.
- *Principals will be receiving a link to the Bus Video Request Form from the station that has the most buses servicing your campus. **Please save the link to your Bookmarks.***

3. **"Scan to Ride" Program**

- **Mandatory Student Badging:** ALL students must scan their NISD student ID badges or their phones every time they board and exit the school bus.
- The mandatory deadline to ensure all bus riders have their id's is Tuesday, September 8 for mandatory scan.
- Student barcodes can be generated in Cognos. **How to Click Sheet and video attached.**
- **Campus Support:** Please reinforce with staff and students during the first month of school that ID badges are required daily for transportation safety and accurate rider counts.
- **Special education students can scan on as well to the best of their ability but will not be required to scan to ride the bus.**

4. **Upgraded Routing & Field Trip Software**

- We are transitioning to an upgraded routing software system for field trips a

- **Mandatory Training:** Campus bookkeepers and principals **must complete a short video training** prior to submitting field trip requests for the upcoming school year.
- *Training links will be emailed directly to bookkeepers and administrators as soon as the transition is ready.*

5. **Coach Bus Driver Safety & Accident Protocol**

To increase accountability and protect our student-athletes, updated protocols apply to coaches operating district buses who are involved in **at-fault accidents**:

- **If a coach fails to report an accident they will receive a citation from NISD PD**
- **Professional Development Reports (PDR):**
 - All coaches involved in an at-fault bus accident will receive a PDR with points assigned.
 - PDRs will be drafted by Transportation Station Management/Safety Specialist, vetted by HR, and sent to campus administration.
 - Campus administration will issue the PDR alongside a Transportation Director or Safety Specialist.
- **Post-Accident Retraining Requirement:**
 - Before checking out any district bus again, coaches involved in an at-fault accident **must complete post-accident retraining** with a designated Transportation Trainer.

Questions or Support?

Contact the Northside ISD Transportation Department at transportation@nisd.net or tesilia.soliz@nisd.net 210-823-4550.

Thank you for your continued partnership together, we are Driven with Purpose!