

ELL Tips for School Staff: Bus Drivers

Here are some ways that bus drivers can support English language learners (ELLs).



Smile!

Greet students with warm smiles and a friendly greeting. Riding a school bus may be new for some ELLs and their families. Students (and adults!) may be very nervous.



Show students where to go.

Ensure students know where to go and get off of the bus. Confirm bus stops and always double-check if you have a question.



Help ELLs adjust.

Pair students with a buddy if needed and ask bus patrols or bus monitors to lend a hand.



Review safety rules.

Review safety rules early and often. Post signs with safety rules that include visuals, and if possible, use bilingual signs or add translated terms to safety signs.



Identify language resources.

Find out how to communicate with multilingual families, especially in an emergency, and which staff members work with families, such as liaisons.



Address bullying.

Address any bullying on the bus immediately. ELLs and their families may not be familiar with school policies related to bullying and they may be afraid to report any incidents.

To see more great tips, visit [the online version](#) of this article!

