

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore

325 Middle Country Road, Suite 3

Selden, NY 11784

Contact: Lauren Auerbach

Phone: 631-854-9292

E-mail: lauren.auerbach@suffolkcountyny.gov



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Muratore Welcomes Students Back to School and Encourages Bus Safety

"Please Pay Attention and Be Aware of Your Surroundings"



Photo Caption: Legislator Tom Muratore (right), photographed with bus driver Emily Ciappa and student Andrew Morici.

Selden, NY – Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) welcomes all students back to the classroom this September. "It's that time of year again where students of all ages trade bathing suits and beach towels for books and backpacks," states Legislator Muratore. "While each school year offers new opportunities for growth and learning, we must remember to consider safety as the number one priority for our children."

Legislator Muratore urges parents to discuss these helpful tips with their children to insure a safer bus ride (courtesy of firststudentinc.com):

- Be aware of moving traffic.
- Leave plenty of time to get to the bus stop. Don't rush.
- Pay attention to your surroundings; listening to your music player or playing handheld games may lead to distractions and potential injury.
- Don't wear a hood as it makes it more difficult to hear and see traffic.
- Stay at a safe distance from the street, and don't play around while waiting for the bus.

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- Stay 10 giant steps away from the outside of the bus while the bus is pulling up so the driver can see you.
- Wait for the bus to stop completely before you move towards it to get on, or before you stand up to get off.
- Be cautious of clothing or backpacks with drawstrings, toggles, or key chains that can get caught on the bus handrails and doors.
- Hold the handrail going up and down the stairwell so you don't trip.
- Find a seat and sit down as soon as you're on the bus.
- Be courteous and respectful to your driver. Listen to directions.
- Don't put your head, arms, papers or anything out the window.
- Don't pick up anything you drop near the bus. The driver may not see you. Instead, ask driver for help.
- Do NOT cross the street until the driver lets you know it's all right to do so.
- Stay away from the bus wheels at all times - the driver cannot see you.

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