

2014 Ohio School Bus Safety Poster Contest

Official Rules

WHAT IS THE THEME?

1. **“Be Smart – Be Seen, I wait in a safe place!!”** is the theme for the 2014 contest. The theme must appear, in clearly legible printed text, somewhere on the poster. The picture drawn on each entry must clearly depict the theme, and that depiction must include at least part of a hand-drawn school bus somewhere on the poster.

For example: A student’s artwork could depict the theme as a safety message to students to always be able to see the bus driver while entering and exiting the bus and going to the designated place of safety in a manner where the bus driver can clearly see the student as well. This example could depict a drawn school bus unloading students and the students walking far out of the danger zone – 10 giant steps away from the bus. This would visually display the student’s understanding regarding the importance of staying away from the bus and in plain sight of the bus driver.

WHO MAY ENTER?

1. Any student enrolled in grades K-8 at a public school district, Board of DD, chartered nonpublic or community school may submit an entry. All entries must have an official entry form attached to the back of the poster. Official entry forms are included with this packet. Entry forms must be legible and **completely** filled out or the entry will not be judged – Teachers **must** write their FIRST and LAST name on the entry form.
2. Entries will be accepted in the following divisions:
 - i. Division I Grades K-2
 - ii. Division II Grades 3-5
 - iii. Division III Grades 6-8
 - iv. Division IV Special Education
3. No more than twelve (12) total entries will be accepted from any one school building.
4. If a school or educating agency sends more than the maximum allowable entries, the contest coordinator may (in his or her discretion) disqualify the entries from that school or educating agency.

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO ENTER?

1. All entries must be postmarked and **received by the contest coordinator before** Wednesday, September 24, 2014. Any entries received after the deadline will not be judged.
2. Posters **must** be shipped in a **flat envelope**. Rolled and/or folded posters will not be judged.
3. All entries become the property of the Ohio Department of Education, Pupil Transportation Office and are not returned to the artist, artist’s school, or to the parent/legal guardian of the student.

WHEN CAN POSTERS BE CREATED?

1. Entries must be created in school, under the direction/guidance of a certified Ohio teacher.

WHAT ARE THE POSTER SPECIFICATIONS?

1. All entries must be **11”x17”** in size and should be **horizontal**. (Entries that have been drawn vertically may not be judged at the discretion of the contest coordinator.)

2. All drawings must be original, correct in safety concept and the exclusive work of the student entering the contest in idea, design and execution. ALL artwork shall be positive in approach, demonstrating only proper school bus safety behaviors. Inappropriate items/content will disqualify a poster.
3. Teachers should supervise all work created. Completion of artwork must be done in school.
4. ***The student's name and/or initials may not appear on the front of the poster. Similarly, the name of the student's school MAY NOT appear anywhere on the front of the poster.***
5. Poster designs ***may not*** include any copyrighted character (i.e., comic and/or television characters).
6. Stenciled, pre-printed, manufactured stick-on or press-on letters or tracings ***may not*** be used and will disqualify the entry and prevent the poster from being judged.
7. Unfortunately, artwork that contains written messages ***other than*** the required theme cannot be judged—even if those other messages are safety related.

WHAT MEDIA MAY BE USED?

1. Pencil, colored pencil, crayon, marker are all acceptable
2. Wood plastic, glass, metal, collage items and glued on materials will disqualify the entry and prevent the poster from being judged.
3. If in doubt whether a medium is acceptable, please ask the contest coordinator.

HOW ARE THE POSTERS JUDGED?

Posters eligible for final judging will be reviewed by a panel of judges—typically a group of persons working or having worked in education. The judges will vote on their top three favorite entries in each division.

Criteria for selection of the award-winning posters are:

1. Relationship of the poster design to the school bus safety practices
2. Originality of the poster and how the idea is expressed in the poster design
3. Artwork and execution
4. Visual impact of the poster design

WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?

Prizes will be announced at a later date, along with a listing of this year's generous sponsors.

ANY POSTER THAT FAILS TO MEET THE CONTEST RULES CANNOT BE JUDGED. DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS CONTESTS, WE REQUEST THAT YOU SUBMIT NO MORE THAN TWELVE (12) ENTRIES PER SCHOOL BUILDING.

All posters must be postmarked and received by the contest coordinator before Wednesday, September 24, 2014

SEND ENTRIES in a FLAT ENVELOPE to:

***Ohio Department of Education
Pupil Transportation Office
Attn: Manuel M. Brooks
25 S. Front Street, Mail Stop 308
Columbus, OH 43215-4183***

QUESTIONS? Please contact the contest coordinator at 877-644-6338 x64230