TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NOTE **No. T-05-05**

Department of Education
John L. Winn, Commissioner

School Business Services
School Transportation Management Section

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DATE: **March 23, 2005**

TO: **School District Transportation Directors**
School District Fleet Service Managers

FROM: **Bill Schroyer, Program Director, Fleet Management**

SUBJECT: **School Bus Inspector Recertification Test Study Guide**

Providing students with access to educational programs requires that school districts and charter schools employ or contract for an adequate supply of trained, well qualified transportation support personnel. Among the most critical of these persons are certified school bus safety inspectors. In order to help inspectors study for the School Bus Inspectors Recertification Test, the Department has assembled the attached study guide.

The majority of questions on this test are based upon cumulative changes and revisions made from 1997 to 2003 within the Florida School Bus Safety Inspection Manual. A small number of questions on this test are based upon material that has not been changed or revised since 1997.

The guide consists of a brief description of all substantive changes and revisions to the Florida School Bus Safety Inspection Manual that may form the basis of recertification test questions. Since some test questions are not based upon changes or revisions, it is recommended that re-certification test candidates also study the 2003 Inspection Manual.

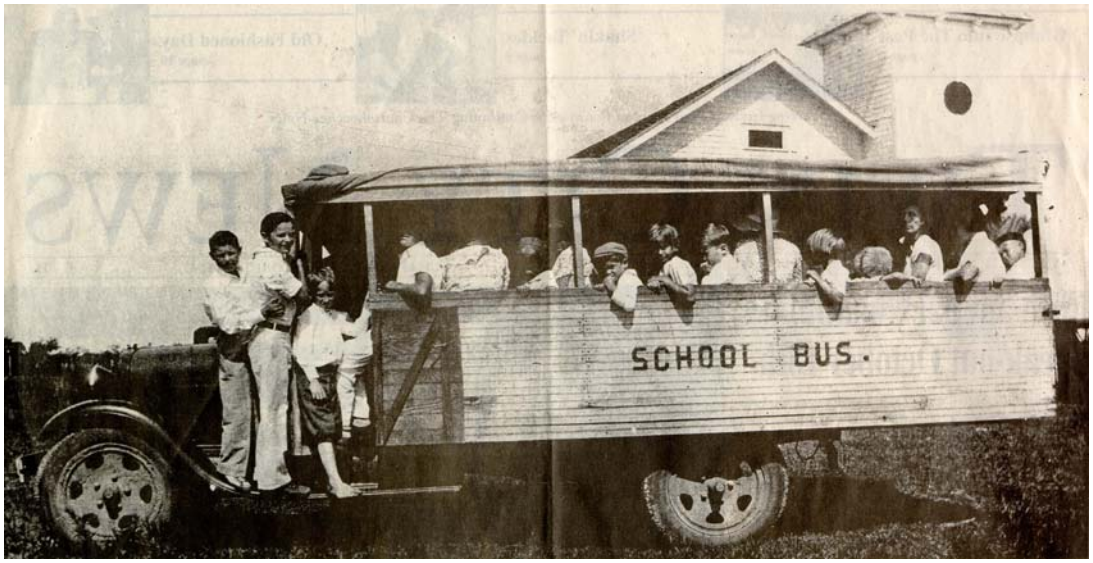
If you have any questions or concerns regarding the recertification process or program, please contact Mr. Michael Starzinski at: Michael.Starzinski@fldoe.org or (850) 245-9795.

WRS/ms

Attachment School Bus Inspector Recertification Test Study Guide, 2004 Revised

cc: School District Superintendents
Selected School Transportation Industry Representatives
Charter Schools

Florida School Bus Safety Inspection Program



School Bus Inspector Recertification Test Study Guide, 2004 Revised

(Revised 9/27/04)

Suggested Study Procedure

The main goal of the recertification test is to create an objective method of determining if individual school bus inspectors possess good working knowledge of all changes that have been made to the Florida School Bus Safety Inspection Manual since they last certified or recertified. In order to accomplish this goal, the recertification test was written using information regarding all substantial changes that have been made to the manual. No test questions are related to revisions in the inspection manual that correct punctuation or spelling errors, or to changes related to revisions in Florida Law or State Board Rule. This test is primarily based upon cumulative changes made since 1997 that are incorporated into the 2003 version of the Florida School Bus Safety Inspection Manual. The only reference that is absolutely necessary when studying for this test is the 2003 version of the manual, as all changes are incorporated within it.

As described above, the recertification test is primarily based upon cumulative changes and revisions made to the Inspection Manual from the 1997 version through the 2003 version. A few recertification test questions are based upon unrevised critical safety-related inspection criteria. Therefore, it is recommended that test candidates study the entire 2003 Inspection Manual, as well as the specific areas indicated in the attached Table of Changes and Revisions (2004 revised).

Table of Cumulative Changes and Revisions (2004 Revised)

ITEMS:	SECTION	PAGE
First Aid Kit, Body Fluid Cleanup Kit, and Reflector Box Tamper Proof Seals, from "Out of Service" to "Repair or Note" (revised).	A. 1. b. 1. A. 1. c. A. 1. d. 4.	2 4 5
Engine Controls: accelerator pedal must have dual springs (external type). Electronically controlled engines can have springs located internally (revised).	A. 4. c. 2.	10
Engine shutdown requirements and identification requirements (Decal), (revised).	A. 4. d. 2.	10
Gauges, Indicators and Dash Lights, Engine Warning lights, and Buzzers: indicator lights for Engine Shutdown (Bowden Cable), Strobe light (Switch light bulb (illumination) inoperative “Repair or Note”), and Shifter indicator, is inoperative (added).	A. 5. b.	12
Engine Warning Lights and Buzzer: to include either the constant or momentary types of systems (added).	A. 5. c. 1. and A. 5. c. 2.	13
ABS warning light and system check (moved/added).	A. 5. d.	13
Park Brake Test RPM for buses equipped with rear-mounted diesel engine and Allison World Transmission inspection note (added).	A. 6. d. and F. 1. a.	16
PP1 knob missing (added).	A. 6. h.	19
Service Door: door opening (minimum 24”); and/or requires more than 25 lbs. of effort to operate the door (added).	A. 11. a.	39
Passenger Seats: Color requirement note (added to "Out of Service"), (added).	A. 15. d.	50
Side Emergency Door flip-up type seat bottom: Inspection Procedure and "Out of Service" criteria (added).	A. 15. e.	51
Passenger securement devices (added).	A. 15. h.	52
Webbing cutter (added).	A. 15. h.	52
Tinted window language (clarified).	A. 17. b.	57
Lift door and lift equipment condition (revised).	A. 18. 1.	59
Interior Wiring, Cab Hoses, and Firewall Seals: Interior Wiring interference with driver’s controls moved to "Out of Service" criteria (revised).	A. 20. a.	63
Grab Rails: “NHTSA String and Nut Test” inspection procedure (Check for required modifications) and "Out of Service" criteria (revised).	A. 21. c.	65
Non-aerosol chemical containers (clarified).	A. 21. f.	66
Corrected hazard lights wording (revised).	B. 1. c.	69
Corrected clearance and ID lights language (revised).	B. 2. a.	72

Table of Cumulative Changes and Revisions (2004 Revised)

(Continued)

ITEMS:	SECTION	PAGE
General Condition, Bus Exterior: Bumper is significantly bent or has protruding metal. Diagonal reflective striping (if equipped) is missing, damaged, or not reflective, "Out of Service" (revised).	B. 5. b.	79
Level of damage to reflective striping (clarified).	B. 5. b.	79
Bumper is not black. Bumper is equipped with any unauthorized stickers or decals. Moved to "Repair or Note" (revised).	B. 5. b.	79
Wheel color requirement (added).	B. 5. d.	80
Reflective marking requirements (clarified).	B. 5. e.	80
Lettering, "Out of Service" column: items 1), 2), 3), Any required lettering (except handicapped symbol) is not black is moved to "Repair or Note" column (revised).	B. 5. f.	81
Fuel Type Lettering: move to “Out of Service” column (revised).	B. 5. f.	81
District Name Lettering: There is not a minimum of at least one bus number or District name present (revised).	B. 5. f.	81
Fluid Levels and Condition: Transmission fluid above full mark (overfilled). Dipstick is missing (added).	C. 3. d.	101
Front brake lining minimum thickness and measurement procedures (revised).	D. 2. f.	123
Front brake adjustment language (clarified).	D. 2. j.	127
Engine/transmission Mounts, Starter Mounting: Heat shield is loose or missing (revised).	D. 3. b.	130
Power steering reservoir cap and dipstick inspection procedure (added).	D. 5. d.	135
Missing fuel tank cap inspection procedure (added).	D. 6. a.	136
Rear Suspension: Wetness around shock body due to leaking shock fluid. Moved to "Out of Service" column (revised).	D. 9. f.	145
Rear brake measurement procedures (revised).	D. 10. f.	151
Rear brake adjustment language (clarified).	D. 10. j.	155
Tailpipe exiting to the left of the left frame rail inspection criteria (added).	D. 12. d.	158
Type "D" Tailpipe inspection language (clarified).	D. 12. d.	158
Tire tread depth measurement language (clarified).	D. 13. a.	159
Wheel type and color requirements (added).	D. 13. f.	163