Every year, thousands of school districts in over 40 states participate in local and state-level competitions to select artwork that depicts school bus safety-related themes and encourages and promotes school bus safety. The winning posters are used to promote safer school transportation for everyone. State winners advance to the national contest.

The American School Bus Council will be administering the 2020-21 National Poster Contest, which aims to select poster that best depicts the Theme: Be Safe – Know the Danger Zone.

The National School Bus Safety Poster Contest is sponsored each year by the National Association for Pupil Transportation, the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, the National School Transportation Association, IC Bus Corporation, Thomas Built Buses and Blue Bird Corp.

Below are Past National Overall Winners
WHEN CAN POSTERS BE DRAWN?:
Posters can be drawn anytime between September 2020 and February 26, 2021. The posters must be submitted to state directors by March 1, 2021 or the designated individual state deadline.

CATEGORIES
Each participating US state, Canadian province, or overseas US military installation may submit one (only first-place winners) winning poster in each of the following categories:

- Division #1 - Grades K-2;
- Division #2 - Grades 3-5;
- Division #3 - Grade 6-8;
- Division #4 - Special Education (Grades K-12);
- Division #5 - CAD (Computer Aided Drawing);
- Division #6 - International entries.

Please Note: Division #5 - CAD and Division #6 - International entries are eligible for competition within those respective divisions but are not eligible to be the Overall Contest Winner.

POSTER THEME:
Every poster and slogan must harmonize with the 2020 poster contest theme: Be Safe – Know The Danger Zone

Contestants must illustrate the above theme only. The theme on the poster must be exactly as shown above, to include all punctuation.

For information on the Danger Zone, check out American School Bus Council’s flyers and animated video on the Danger Zone at http://schoolbusfacts.com/safety/.

STEP ONE: SUBMIT AT THE STATE/PROVINCE LEVEL
The National School Bus Safety Poster Contest is supported by a state/province level infrastructure. The national contest is open only to winners of state/province contests or contests held by overseas US military installations.

Contact your state director of pupil transportation or the American School Bus Council at the following address:
info@americanschoolbuscouncil.org for information about where to submit posters in your state contest. A poster must win at the state level to be entered into the national contest.

As an exception, students who live in a US state, Canadian province, or overseas US military installation that does not have a contest may submit entries directly to ASBC.

CONTEST DEADLINE:
Winning STATE contest posters must be received by ASBC from state administrators by April 1, 2021.

All posters and related intellectual property rights become the property of the American School Bus Council upon receipt and are not returned to the artist, his/her parents/legal guardians, art instructor or art teacher, school, state or contest sponsor, or any other person(s) claiming a right, title, or other interest in the poster. Posters that have been used for any promotional purposes may not be submitted.

JUDGING CRITERIA:
Prominent individuals in the field of pupil transportation will evaluate posters. Criteria for the selection of award-winning posters are:

- Relationship of the poster design to the school bus safety practices. (Safety Impact)
- Originality of the poster and how the idea is expressed in the poster design. (Originality)
- Artwork and its execution. (Artistic Quality)
- Visual impact of the poster design. (Visual Impact)

The National School Bus Safety Week (NSBSW) Committee has the right to disqualify any entry that does not comply with all contest requirements.

PRIZES:
Prizes will be awarded for each division as follows:

- 1st Place and Overall Winner - $500 check
- 1st Place Winners of remaining 3 divisions - $250 check
- 2nd Place Winners of each 4 divisions - $100 check
- 3rd Place Winners of each 4 divisions - $50 check
- 1st Place Winner – CAD division - $50 check
- 1st Place Winner – International division - $50 check

Winners will be notified and sent prizes in May 2021. The 1st Place/Overall winning poster will be used to promote National School Bus Safety Week for 2021.
POSTER SPECIFICATIONS:
Completed poster size must be 11” x 17” or 12” x 18”. Posters may be illustrated on the vertical or horizontal axis.

Designs should be submitted on quality tag, poster illustration board or heavy paper. Construction paper may be used but entries must be mounted on quality tag poster. Lamination is not permitted and will disqualify the poster.

There is no limitation on the use and number of colors.

There is no limitation on the type of media -- such as print, crayon, felt pen, etc. -- used on the poster design; however, wood, plastic, glass or metal should not be part of the poster. Collage materials should not be used. Glued on pieces will disqualify the poster.

Lettering and Drawing: The poster design may incorporate freehand letters only. Stenciled, pre-printed, manufactured stick-on or press-on letters or tracings may not be used and will disqualify the poster. Lettering should be clearly legible, even if used as part of the poster design. Cut paper / stencils (freehand or pre-drawn stick-on stencils) are not permitted and will disqualify the poster.

Poster designs may not incorporate any copyrighted materials (i.e., comic and/or television characters), including stock artwork, meaning photographs or other images of common places, landmarks, nature, events or people; clip art, meaning anything from an existing collection of pictures or images that can be imported from or into the poster; and non-original raster graphics or vector graphics.

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 should be positive in approach, demonstrating only proper school bus safety behaviors. At least a part of a yellow school bus must be present in the poster.

There must be a 3” x 5” card/entry blank securely fastened to the back of the poster which includes the student’s name, grade, age, teacher’s name, email address, school name and school address. Please print clearly. Do not place name, school, etc., on the front of the poster. Display information on the back only.

An art instructor or art teacher should supervise all work.

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS:
Students and teachers must send posters to the directors at their state level.

Each state administrator may send no more than FIVE posters from each state/province. No more than five posters may be entered in the national contest (one in each Division listed above). Do NOT roll posters. They must be mailed / delivered flat.

Winning posters from each participating state/province/overseas US military installation must be mailed first class in a flat envelope to:
National School Bus Safety Poster Contest
c/o ASBC
13800 FM 1826
Austin, TX 78737
2020-21 NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY POSTER CONTEST
Please complete and attach this form to the back of each poster in accordance with poster specifications noted in the contest rules.

SAMPLE 3 by 5 CARD LABEL FOR ENTRY - PRINT CLEARLY
- Division #1 - Grades K-2
- Division #2 - Grades 3-5
- Division #3 - Grade 6-8
- Division #4 - Special Education (Grades K-12)
- Division #5 - CAD (Computer Aided Drawing)
- Division #6 - International entries

Student Name _________________________________________
Grade __________________ Age _________________________
School _____________________________________________
School Address _____________________________________
City ________________________________________________
State__________ ZIP _________________________________
Teacher’s Name ______________________________________
Teacher’s Email _____________________________________
Student’s Home Address ______________________________
City ________________________________________________
State__________ ZIP _________________________________

Do not place this information on the front of the poster. Display on the back only.