



R20AM

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE
NHTSA Recall Number: 20V-125 School Bus

DATE: April 22, 2020

SUBJECT: FMVSS 222 Noncompliance Seat Barrier Install Behind Driver Seat Integrated 3-Point Seatbelt

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

This important safety recall notice applies to your bus(es) identified by both Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed yellow cover sheet. If you no longer own the subject bus(es), please complete the appropriate section of the yellow coversheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

Blue Bird Body Company is voluntarily recalling certain model year 2008 to 2021 Blue Bird Vision School Buses manufactured from February 28, 2007 through January 18, 2020 and certain model year 2008 to 2021 All American School Buses manufactured from September 26, 2007 through December 21, 2019. On the subject buses, it has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses may fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 222 "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection" requirements for the seat barrier behind the driver seat with integrated 3-point seat belt. Subject buses may fail to meet the FMVSS 222 Barrier performance forward (S5.2.3) requirements. Blue Bird must conduct a recall to correct this noncompliance. The barrier on subject buses must be inspected and replaced according to the Blue Bird recall instructions, if found to be incorrect. A secondary inspection will have to be conducted on certain Vision buses to determine the presence of the reinforcing bracket below the floor. Blue Bird evaluated the risk to motor vehicle safety related to this noncompliance and determined that there is a potential for injury to the occupant seated behind the barrier in the event of a crash.

To correct this noncompliance, seat barriers positioned immediately behind an integrated 3-point driver seat must have a reinforced construction on all buses and utilize a reinforcing bracket under the floor attached to the frame rail on certain Vision and All American buses. A visual inspection will be required to ensure that the proper reinforced barrier and barrier-reinforcing bracket are installed. If the correct components are not in place, the barrier will be replaced and the barrier-reinforcing bracket will be installed. Blue Bird will provide the affected dealers and owners with instructions regarding this recall remedy. Parts are anticipated to be available at the end of April.

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of the repairs related to this recall at no cost to you the vehicle owner. The standard repair time (SRT) to accomplish these repairs in accordance with the recall installation procedure is outlined below with the repair options and allowable labor time per bus.

Repair Options and allowable labor times for this campaign:

Repair A (Barrier Inspection):

- Inspect to determine if the barrier or reinforcing brackets below the floor need to be replaced, per attached instructions:
 - 0.1 hour 6 minutes)

Repair B (Barrier Replacement):

- Time to replace barrier, per attached instructions:
 - 0.6 hour (36 minutes)

Repair C (Below Floor Bracket - Vision Only):

- Time to install barrier reinforcing bracket, per attached instructions:
 - 0.50 hours (30 minutes)



BLUE BIRD

Blue Bird Body Company

Page 2

R20AM

Parts to complete Recall R20AM can be obtained from your local Blue Bird Dealer or Blue Bird Recall Administration via e-mail at campaignparts@blue-bird.com or by returning the yellow cover sheet to Blue Bird in the pink self-addressed, postage prepaid envelope to receive parts at no charge. You should retain a copy of the reply sheet for your records. Be sure to provide a valid shipping address as UPS does not deliver to post office boxes. Parts are anticipated to be available at the end of April.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If the modifications directed by this notification were performed on your bus prior to the receipt of this recall notification, attach a copy of the work order/invoice. Mail the documents in the pink self-addressed postage prepaid envelope included with the pink reply sheet to Blue Bird for warranty consideration. Reimbursements will be made in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Transportation Safety Act, Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 573 and 577.

Please contact your local Blue Bird Dealer with any questions regarding this recall campaign.

If Blue Bird Body Company should fail to or is unable to remedy this condition without charge to you, you may contact:

**ADMINISTRATOR
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
1200 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, SE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590**

Or, you may call The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration toll free at:
1-888-327-4236 TTY 1-800-424-9153 or go to: <http://www.safercar.gov>