



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V635

Manufacturer Name: Blue Bird Body Company

Submission Date: Sep 24, 2025

NHTSA Recall No.: 25V635

Manufacturer Recall No.: R25DS

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Blue Bird Body Company

Address: P.O. Box 937
402 Blue Bird Boulevard
Fort Valley GA, 31030

Total number of potentially involved: 150

Estimated percentage with defect: 100%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2021-2026 BLUE BIRD VISION

Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion: Electric Battery Power

Production Dates: Jan 01, 2021 - Sep 15, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 150

Descriptive Information:

On some Blue Bird BBCV EV vehicles Model Year 2021 and beyond, equipped with the Accelera PowerDrive and the brake interlock feature, the Parking brake can be engaged at any vehicle speed.

Other product do not contain the Brake Interlock Feature.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Until September 15, 2025, Blue Bird's EV models had a software flaw where the parking brake would be engaged at any driving speed if the seatbelt was unbuckled or the entrance door was open. This would lead to abrupt stoppage of vehicle.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

Due to unintended brake engagement there is a high risk of immediate and sudden stoppage of the

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V635

vehicle and risk of crash.

Description of the cause:

The Brake Interlock feature did not include a vehicle speed condition. Therefore, If the seat belt is unbuckled and/ or entrance door is opened at any vehicle speed parking brake will be engaged.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

NONE

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier:

Supplier Type:

Name: Blue Bird Body Company

Address: 3920 Arkwright Rd,
Macon GA, 31210

Country: United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Battery Interlock Software

Component Description: Battery Interlock Software

Component Part Number:

Chronology

Issue was identified as a result of internal investigation.

On September 15 2025, while testing, Blue Bird Engineering found that on vehicles equipped with brake interlock, if the brake interlock is engaged (example, if the entrance door was opened) at any driving speed the parking brake system would engage resulting in unexpected braking.

As of 9/24/2025 there has been 0 injuries/deaths and 0 crashes.

There has been also no warranty claims, field service requests.

Under normal operating conditions and adherence to safety protocols, a school bus driver would not unbuckle their seatbelt or open the doors while the bus is in motion.

Hence we haven't seen any impact in the field due to this issue.

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V635

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type:

Consumer Advisories: Do Not Drive Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

Blue Bird has identified an update to the A zone Multiplex module software has been made to ensure brake interlock functionality will not engage above 3mph. The new software was released on 09/15/2025 to ensure units assemble on or after this date will be clean.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

Blue Bird corrected the problem with a software update.

- Software revised: As of September 15, 2025, the multiplex module's software was changed.
- New data source: It was reprogrammed to get vehicle speed data from the Brake Controller source address instead of the Accelera powertrain controller.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

Improvements were implemented on September 15 by making the Brake interlock dependent on vehicle speed. Software updates were tested and released as a corrective action.

Reimbursement Plan

Manufacturer used general reimbursement plan on file.

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Dealer and Owner Notifications are to be issued on or before (Planned dealer notification date). Updated Software will be available at time of recall release.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Nov 21, 2025 - Nov 21, 2025 No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: Nov 21, 2025 - Nov 21, 2025 No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: Nov 21, 2025 - Nov 21, 2025 Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: