



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V851

Manufacturer Name: Blue Bird Body Company

Submission Date: Jan 06, 2026

NHTSA Recall No.: 25V851

Manufacturer Recall No.:

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: 310

Estimated percentage with defect: 50%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2026-2027 BLUE BIRD VISION SCHOOL BUS

Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion: Electric Battery Power

Production Dates: May 19, 2025 - Nov 26, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 280

Descriptive Information:

These are the buses with wheel chair lifts installed and the buses that are not part of this population would be the ones that were built before the issue started or after the issue has been resolved.

Vehicle 2: 2026-2027 BLUE BIRD VISION SCHOOL BUS

Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

Product Type: School Bus

Fuel / Propulsion: Compression Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: May 19, 2025 - Nov 26, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 280

Descriptive Information:

These are the buses with wheel chair lifts installed and the buses that are not part of this population would be the ones that were built before the issue started or after the issue has been resolved.

Vehicle 3: 2026-2027 BLUE BIRD VISION SCHOOL BUS

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V851

Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

Product Type: School Bus

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: May 19, 2025 - Nov 26, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 280

Descriptive Information:

These are the buses with wheel chair lifts installed and the buses that are not part of this population would be the ones that were built before the issue started or after the issue has been resolved.

Vehicle 4: 2026-2027 BLUE BIRD ALL AMERICAN SCHOOL BUS

Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles

Product Type: School Bus

Fuel / Propulsion: Compression Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: May 19, 2025 - Nov 26, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 30

Descriptive Information:

These are the buses with wheel chair lifts installed and the buses that are not part of this population would be the ones that were built before the issue started or after the issue has been resolved.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Qstraint Retractor provided in certain Blue Bird school buses may not lock

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

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

An unlocked Q'Straint retractor will not properly secure a wheelchair and place the passenger at a risk of serious injury or death during normal vehicle travel, emergency maneuvers, or a crash.

Description of the cause:

Q'straint informs that Sticking of the auto release function due to friction between internal components.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

An unlocked retractor is detectable when performing standard functional inspection, pre-trip inspection,

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V851

or observed abnormal wheelchair movement per Q'Straint User and Care Manual.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1

Supplier Type: OEM

Name: Q'Straint

Address: 5553 Ravenswood Rd
BLDG 110
Fort Lauderdale FL, 33312

Country: United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Retractor

Component Description: QRT-MAX, Auto release, Auto retract

Component Part Number: Q8-6209

Component Name 2: Retractor

Component Description: QRT-Deluxe, Auto Release, Auto Retract

Component Part Number: Q8-6200

Chronology

December 2nd 2025: NHTSA reached out to Blue Bird and informed about Q'straint defect report submission. NHTSA also requested Blue Bird to submit defect information report since we purchased this equipment for our school buses.

December 9th 2025: Blue Bird is submitting defect report for this defective component.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Inspect, Replace

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V851

Consumer Advisories: Do Not Drive Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

Customers will be notified to inspect and remove any retractors bearing the suspect Part Number, Lot Number, and Lot Identification. Suspect products will be replaced by Q'Straint at no expense.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

Remedy components will be of a different Lot Number and Lot Identification and will not exhibit the defect.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

All Q'Straint suspect material was quarantined and products manufactured after September 10, 2025 did not use any suspect supplied material.

Reimbursement Plan

Description of reimbursement program:

Q'Straint will replace suspect components free of charge

Period of reimbursement:

Product shipped to Blue Bird from 05/07/2025 - 09/10/2025.

Costs to be reimbursed:

Replacement product and freight

Address for reimbursement claims:

4031 NE
12th Terrace
Oakland Park FL, 33334

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Notification letters will be sent to all Blue Bird customers starting on February 6th 2026 listing the Part Number, Lot Number, and Lot Identification requesting the removal of suspect units with instructions for obtaining replacement units.

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**25V851****Planned Dealer Notification Date:** Feb 06, 2026 - Feb 06, 2026 No Dealers**Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:** No Owners**Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:** Phased Recall**Date when VIN will be searchable:**