



R26DT

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

NHTSA Number: 25V-851 (School Bus)
NHTSA Number: 26V-004 (Non-School Bus)

DATE: January 29, 2026
TO: U.S. DEALERS
SUBJECT: R26DT: Q'Straint Wheel Chair Restraint System Issue

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

Blue Bird Body Company has decided a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain:

- Model year 2026-2027 Blue Bird Vision School Bus Units (BBCV):
 - Manufactured from May 19, 2025 through November 17, 2025
- Model year 2026-2027 Blue Bird All American School Bus Units (T3FE/T3RE):
 - Manufactured from May 28, 2025 through November 13, 2025
- Model year 2026 Blue Bird Vision Non-School Bus Units (BBCV):
 - Manufactured from July 26, 2025 through August 7, 2025
- Model Year 2026 Blue Bird All American Non-School Bus Units (T3FE):
 - Manufactured from August 11, 2025 through August 28, 2025

This 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 cover sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

Blue Bird is recalling certain 2026-2027 Vision and All American School and Non-School Buses equipped with QRT-Deluxe and QRT-Max wheelchair restraints. The retractors may not lock, preventing the wheelchair from being properly secured. The Q'Straint Retractor provided in certain Blue Bird School and Non-School Buses may not lock. An unlocked Q'Straint Retractor will not properly secure a wheelchair and may place the passenger at a risk of serious injury or death during normal vehicle travel, emergency maneuvers, or a crash. Q'Straint has informed Blue Bird the sticking of the auto release function is due to friction between internal components. An unlocked retractor is detectable, when performing a standard functional inspection, pre-trip inspection, or observed abnormal wheelchair movement, per the Q'Straint User and Care Manual.

Blue Bird shall conduct a safety recall to inspect and remove any retractors bearing the Suspect Part Number, Lot Number, and Lot Identification. The Suspect Part Number, Lot Number, and Lot Identification is provided in the R26DT Recall Instructions. Suspect products will be replaced by Q'Straint at no expense. The remedy components will be of a different Lot Number and Lot Identification and will not exhibit the defect. The remedy will modify existing hardware and software to enhance operator detectability.

Corrective Action:

To correct this condition, the Q'Straint Retractor will need to be inspected and any retractors bearing the suspect Part Number, Lot Number, and Lot Identification be removed. Repair per R26DT Recall Instructions. Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of the repair related to this recall at no cost to the Dealer or the vehicle owner.



Labor Reimbursement:

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of the Repair related to this recall at no cost to the Dealer or the vehicle owner. The standard repair time (SRT) to accomplish the repairs in accordance with the R26DT remedy procedure(s) is outlined below.

Repair A: R26DT Inspection	0.4 Hours (24 Minutes)
Repair B: R26DT Replace 1 Belt	0.1 Hours (6 Minutes)
Repair C: R26DT Replace 2 Belts	0.2 Hours (12 Minutes)
Repair D: R26DT Replace 3 Belts	0.3 Hours (18 Minutes)
Repair E: R26DT Replace 4 Belts	0.4 Hours (24 Minutes)

Administering the Recall and Parts:

Recall R26DT should be repaired, per R26DT Recall Instructions. Parts are currently available. **Please contact Q'Straint Customer Service (800) 987-9987 for a Return Material Authorization (RMA) Number for replacement.**

If Blue Bird's records indicate bus(es) subject to this recall were delivered in your service area, a list of affected bus(es) will be enclosed. The bus(es) will be identified by Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the enclosed yellow cover sheet. **Dealers should verify correct owners and assure complete mailing and shipping addresses are provided for each listed owner.**

It is the dealer's responsibility to verify the correct owner's name, address, and telephone number is provided for each listed vehicle. Any corrections or updates should be made in ClaimsCenter. Addresses that cannot be updated should be forwarded to campaignparts@blue-bird.com

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

Dealers are reminded of their responsibilities under Section 154 of The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1991. Dealers are required to complete modifications on units in their inventory before delivering to the final owner. Reference Blue Bird Body Company Distributor Memo No. 42-92.

If you have in your possession or have sold a bus that was purchased from another dealer, that may be affected by this recall, please notify Lisa Hancock at 478-822-2242 or lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to Lisa Hancock, as well.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hancock

Corporate Recall Administrator
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