



R26DT

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

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

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBJECT: R26DT: Q'Straint Wheel Chair Restraint System Issue

Dear Blue Bird Owner:

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 Instructions. Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of the repair related to this recall at no cost to the vehicle owner.



Labor Reimbursement:

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of the Repair related to this recall at no cost to 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.**

Blue Bird recommends you contact your local or nearest Blue Bird Dealer to arrange for this recall to be performed. To locate an authorized dealer, search online at www.blue-bird.com/find-a-dealer. The Dealer can perform the repairs, or arrange for repairs to be performed by a service repair facility authorized by the Dealer.

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 1-888-275-9171 or go to: <http://www.safercar.gov>