



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

**1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590**

July 23, 2026

26V466

Sumanth Balesh
Blue Bird Body Company
3920 Arkwright Rd, Suite 200
Macon, GA 31210

Subject: Brake Fluid Leak May Cause Fire

Dear Sumanth Balesh:

This letter serves to acknowledge Blue Bird Body Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

BLUE BIRD/VISION SCHOOL BUS/2022-2027

Mfr's Report Date: July 20, 2026

NHTSA Campaign Number: 26V466

Components:

SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAULIC:FOUNDATION COMPONENTS:HOSES, LINES/PIPING, AND FITTINGS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 5,096

Problem Description:

Blue Bird Bus Company (Blue Bird) is recalling certain 2022-2027 Vision school buses. The exhaust hanger cotter pin may contact the hydraulic brake line, damaging the line and causing a brake fluid leak.

Consequence:

A brake fluid leak in the presence of an ignition source such as hot engine or exhaust components can increase the risk of a fire. Additionally, a brake fluid leak can extend the distance required to stop, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:



Dealers will replace the exhaust hanger cotter pin. Dealers will also inspect and replace the brake lines as necessary. All repairs will be performed free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed September 18, 2026. Owners may contact Blue Bird customer service at 1-478-822-2242.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-888-275-9171), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Chronology Not Supplied

As required by 49 CFR §573.6, amend the chronology to provide all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information (such as the number of deaths and/or injuries) with their dates of receipt. In the case of a noncompliance, provide the test results and other information used to determine the existence of the noncompliance, including the date of each test and observation that indicated that a noncompliance might or did exist. Submit this information through an amended Part 573 report through the recalls portal. If additional space is needed, please upload as a separate miscellaneous document.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Blue Bird Body Company's contact for this recall will be Hensly Guerra who may be reached by email at hensly.guerra1@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement