School bus stops are usually very safe places for students, but in today’s world, dangers do exist. Sadly, incidents of violence, gang activity and abductions have happened at or near school bus stops in various parts of the country. It is important for you to be aware of possible dangers at school bus stops and to know what to do if you see something or someone suspicious.

The information in this handout is not intended to frighten you. The 3 Steps to Safety is designed to help keep you safe at or near your bus stop.

1. **Be aware of the dangers:**
   First, be aware that dangers can exist at or near the school bus stop.

2. **Know what to watch for:**
   - Suspicious people; odd behavior
   - Strangers hanging around the bus stop
   - Strangers offering you a ride
   - Someone taking pictures
   - Unusual packages left at the stop
   - Weapons
   - Students or others talking about weapons or violence

3. **Know what to do:**
   If you see someone or something suspicious:
   - Tell your school bus driver or a trusted adult, such as your parents, teacher or principal.
   - Follow the driver’s instructions in an emergency. He/she has been trained to handle school bus emergencies.