

Door Open Alert Option

AIR AND MANUAL DOOR OPERATION

We are aware of a nationwide issue where students are being severely injured or killed after being "dragged" by the school bus. Either the student themselves, their clothing or articles such as backpacks are being caught in the door when it closes resulting in them being "dragged".

We took steps to minimize the problem with units equipped with the "Brake Interlock" but in light of continuing instances, we feel the need to do more.

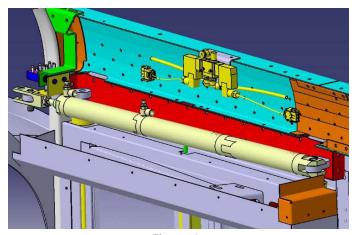
In response to many suggestions and as a driver's attention is on the entrance area when students exit the bus, the switches operating power doors were moved from the left side to the right side of the driver's area,. Continuing to work on a more effective solution, we created an option where the distance between the leaves of the door is far less and a light on the dash will illuminate alerting the driver to an issue.

Blue Bird recently introduced a redesign of their Air Operated Entrance door. A "remote" mounted cylinder control valve (Figure 1) will eliminate wire fatigue and will decreased the opening of the door. On units equipped with the Brake Interlock option, a smaller gap between the door leaves is required before the brake interlock will disengage (Figures 4-8).

Figure 2 below shows the 2" red light mounted on the dash while Figure 3 shows the light lit with the entrance door open from the driver's seat. Figure 4 shows the decrease in the door opening using a common foam "lunch bag". Figures 5-6-7 show the lunch bag folded and placed low in the entrance door at the level of a small child when closed. Figure 8 shows what the driver would see looking "down" into the stepwell.

We realize that that there are still items students may carry or have on their person which could get caught be this does offer something better than we could previously offer to help ensure student safety.

Please Note: Unfortunately, while this will not solve all scenarios, it is important to remember that Driver training is the key to making sure there are no more instances of the student "dragging" happening.



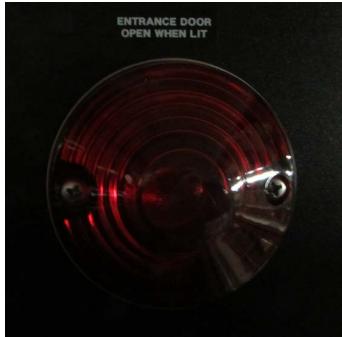


Figure 1 Figure 2





Figure 3 Figure 4





Figure 5 Figure 6





Figure 7 Figure 8

Contact our nearest Service Department for more information

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