



R19AH

**IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**

**NHTSA Recall Number: 19V-707 School Bus**

**DATE: October 25, 2019**  
**TO: U.S. DEALERS**  
**SUBJECT: RECALL R19AH – Joint Strength Noncompliance – Insufficient Roof Rivet Quantity**

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

This important safety recall notice applies to your buses identified by both Blue Bird Body Number and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the attached yellow cover sheet.

Blue Bird Body Company is recalling certain model year 2019 to 2021 Vision with manufactured dates from July 16, 2019 through August 27, 2019 and 2019 to 2021 All American School Buses manufactured from July 17, 2019 through August 25, 2019. It has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 221, School Bus Body Joint Strength. These subject buses may not comply with the 60% joint strength requirement on certain 8-inch segments of the exterior roof joints. Blue Bird evaluated the risk to motor vehicle safety related to this noncompliance and determined that there is a potential for the roof sheets to separate in the event of a crash when less than 6 rivets are installed in an 8-inch roof joint segment. In the event of a crash, if the roof sheets separate, there is an increased risk of injury.

To correct this noncompliance, the roof sheet joints on these subject buses must be inspected and, if found not in compliance, modified according to the Blue Bird repair instructions. Roof panel joints are assembled with two rows of rivets. Each joint must have a minimum of 6 rivets in each 8-inch segment. Utilizing an 8-inch template moving along the roof panel joint, the repair personnel will count the rivets that appear in the cutout section of the template. In the event that an 8-inch roof section has less than 6 rivets, the repair personnel will be required to add a sufficient number of rivets evenly spaced such that there are 6 rivets installed in that 8-inch segment. **The 8-inch template is included with this notification letter.** Parts for this campaign are currently available.

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of inspection and potential repairs relating to this recall at no cost to you the Dealer or to the vehicle owner. The standard repair time (SRT) to accomplish these repairs in accordance with the R19AH installation procedure is 0.8 hours (48 minutes) for the inspection and 2 minutes per rivet that must be installed.

Parts to complete Recall R19AH can be obtained from Blue Bird Recall Administration via e-mail at [campaignparts@blue-bird.com](mailto:campaignparts@blue-bird.com) or by returning the yellow cover sheet to Blue Bird in the pink self-addressed, postage prepaid envelope to receive parts at no charge. You should retain a copy of the reply sheet for your records.



**Blue Bird Body Company**

Page 2

**R19AH**

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 that complete mailing and shipping addresses are provided for each listed owner.**

It is the Dealer's responsibility to verify that the correct owner 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 the Recall Administrator.

**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](mailto:lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com). Questions regarding this recall campaign should be directed to Lisa Hancock as well.

Sincerely,

***Lisa Hancock***

Corporate Recall Administrator

Blue Bird Corporation

402 Blue Bird Blvd, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030

Phone 478.822.2242

[lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com](mailto:lisa.hancock@blue-bird.com)

**BLUE BIRD BODY COMPANY**

3920 Arkwright Road, Suite 200, Macon, GA 31210 – (478) 825-2021