



R19AH

## IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

NHTSA Recall Number: 19V-707 School Bus

**DATE:** October 25, 2019

**SUBJECT:** RECALL R19AH – Joint Strength Noncompliance – Insufficient Roof Rivet Quantity

**Dear Blue Bird Owner:**

This important safety recall 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 reply sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

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

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



**BLUE BIRD**

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**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 1-800-424-9153 or go to: <http://www.safercar.gov>