



R20AM

**IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**  
**NHTSA Recall Number: 20V-125 School Bus**

**DATE:** April 22, 2020  
**TO:** U.S. DEALERS  
**SUBJECT:** FMVSS 222 Noncompliance, Seat Barrier Install Behind Driver Seat Integrated 3-Point Seatbelt

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 voluntarily recalling certain model year 2008 to 2021 Blue Bird Vision School Buses manufactured from February 28, 2007 through January 18, 2020 and certain model year 2008 to 2021 All American School Buses manufactured from September 26, 2007 through December 21, 2019. On the subject buses, it has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses may fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 222 "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection" requirements for the seat barrier behind the driver seat with integrated 3-point seat belt. Subject buses may fail to meet the FMVSS 222 Barrier performance forward (S5.2.3) requirements. Blue Bird must conduct a recall to correct this noncompliance. The barrier on subject buses must be inspected and replaced according to the Blue Bird recall instructions, if found to be incorrect. A secondary inspection will have to be conducted on certain Vision buses to determine the presence of the reinforcing bracket below the floor. Blue Bird evaluated the risk to motor vehicle safety related to this noncompliance and determined that there is a potential for injury to the occupant seated behind the barrier in the event of a crash.

To correct this noncompliance, seat barriers positioned immediately behind an integrated 3-point driver seat must have a reinforced construction on all buses and utilize a reinforcing bracket under the floor attached to the frame rail on certain Vision and All American buses. A visual inspection will be required to ensure that the proper reinforced barrier and barrier-reinforcing bracket are installed. If the correct components are not in place, the barrier will be replaced and the barrier-reinforcing bracket will be installed. Blue Bird will provide the affected dealers and owners with instructions regarding this recall remedy. Parts are anticipated to be available at the end of April.

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of the repairs related 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 recall installation procedure is outlined below with the repair options and allowable labor time per bus.

**Repair Options and allowable labor times for this campaign:**

**Repair A (Barrier Inspection):**

- Inspect to determine if the barrier or reinforcing brackets below the floor need to be replaced, per attached instructions:
  - 0.1 hour (6 minutes)

**Repair B (Barrier Replacement):**

- Time to replace barrier, per attached instructions:
  - 0.6 hour (36 minutes)

**Repair C (Below Floor Bracket - Vision Only):**

- Time to install barrier reinforcing bracket, per attached instructions:
  - 0.50 hours (30 minutes)



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Parts to complete Recall R20AM 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. Be sure to provide a valid shipping address, as UPS does not deliver to post office boxes. Parts are anticipated to be available at the end of April.

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)