



R20AO

**IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**  
**NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-234 (School Bus)**  
**NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V-235 (Non-School Bus)**

**DATE:** June 11, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Recall R20AO, FMVSS 105 Noncompliance – Hydraulic Brake Units W/Floor Mounted Park Brake Hand Lever Assembly

**Dear Blue Bird Owner:**

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 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 cover sheet and return to Blue Bird in the enclosed pink postage prepaid envelope.

Blue Bird Body Company is voluntarily recalling certain model year 2006 to 2021 Blue Bird Vision School Buses manufactured from September 24, 2005 through February 13, 2020; certain model year 2007 to 2013 All American School Buses manufactured from September 27, 2006 through June 15, 2012; and certain model year 2009 to 2019 Vision Non-School Buses manufactured on September 6, 2008 and March 12, 2018. On the subject buses, it has been determined that certain Blue Bird buses could fail to conform to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 105 "Hydraulic and Electric Brake Systems" for the parking brake system requirements. Subject buses may fail to meet the FMVSS 105 S5.2.3 requirements for holding the vehicle stationary for 5 minutes on a 20% grade when loaded to its maximum gross vehicle weight. Blue Bird must conduct a recall to correct this noncompliance. The potentially suspect population includes buses equipped with hydraulic brakes with a hand lever mounted on the right side of the driver seat to actuate the parking brake (Feature 40049-03). Blue Bird shall conduct a voluntary safety recall to correct any potential noncompliance.

Blue Bird has evaluated the risk to motor vehicle safety related to this noncompliance and determined that there is a potential for injury to the occupant and bystanders in the event that the parking brake system is set to an insufficient application force. A parked bus that moves unexpectedly could increase the risk of injury and/or a crash. Therefore, the bus should be parked on a level surface and properly chock the wheels until the hand brake assembly has been inspected.

**Corrective Action:**

To correct this noncompliance, Blue Bird will notify the affected owners that the application force of the floor mounted park brake hand lever assembly must be inspected and set according to the Blue Bird Service Manual requirements.

**Labor Reimbursement:**

Blue Bird will reimburse the labor cost of potential repairs relating to this recall at no cost to you the vehicle owner. Repair Options and allowable labor times for this campaign:

- **Repair A (Inspection):**
  - 0.1 (6 minutes)
- **Repair B (Handle Adjustment – As Needed)**
  - 0.1 (6 minutes)
- **Repair C (Yoke Adjustment – As Needed)**
  - 0.2 (12 minutes)



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**Administering the Recall:**

**Blue Bird recommends that you contact your local or nearest Blue Bird Dealer to arrange for this recall to be performed.** The Dealer can perform the repairs, or arrange for repairs to be performed by a service repair facility authorized by the Dealer. However, you may elect to perform this recall yourself or pay another independent repair facility to perform this recall. A qualified technician should perform this recall. If you elect to perform this recall yourself or pay another independent repair facility to perform this recall, complete and submit the Pink Owner's Recall Reply Sheet provided. The Recall Reply Sheet includes a section for the owner to request reimbursement of the owner's labor or to request reimbursement for a labor invoice paid by the owner to an independent repair facility.

**Parts to complete Recall R20AO are not required for this campaign.**

**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>