

OPC-04:

**What's Happening with Seat Belts on
School Buses?**

**What's New with Transporting Children
with Special Health Care Needs on
School Buses?**



www.hsrc.unc.edu

Session Goals

- NOT a discussion of pro's and con's of seat belts on school buses
- Guidelines for transporting children with special health care needs on school buses
- Past and present NC experience with seat belts on school buses

From HSRC 1999 Report

- State-of-the-art was the lap-only seat belt
- Key questions considered then:
 1. Will seat belts on large school buses do more harm than good?
 2. Would potential injury reductions be sufficient to justify the cost?
 3. Operational concerns that must be addressed?

Key Points Now

- State-of-the-art is integrated lap and shoulder seat belts
- Safety can be improved with use of lap/shoulder belts
- Added cost on new buses can be justified
- Operational and implementation concerns

NC Department of Public Instruction and Durham Public Schools 60 Years of School Bus Seats Exhibit



Source: www.schoolbusfleet.com/photogallery/660053/60-years-of-school-bus-seats