

Bus Driver Role-Play Notes

Role: School Bus Driver (Activity Runs)

You've been driving teams, bands, and clubs to games, competitions, and events for years. You know the road routines, the energy on the bus, and the challenges most students don't think about. You like the kids, but you've got stories to tell.

Key Themes to Share

- **Life on the Road**
 - Long hours, sometimes late nights after games.
 - Driving in all kinds of weather — snow, rain, icy roads.
 - Different destinations: rival schools, faraway competitions, even overnight trips.
- **Student Energy**
 - Excited chatter on the way there, exhaustion on the way home.
 - Band instruments, sports gear, and giant bags crammed into the bus.
 - Funny or memorable moments of school spirit.
- **Challenges**
 - Keeping the bus safe and quiet enough to drive.
 - Finding schools or fields in small towns.
 - Waiting in the bus during long events.
 - Staying alert on late-night return trips.
- **Memorable Stories**
 - That one time the bus got back after midnight and everyone was asleep.
 - A pep band breaking into songs during the ride.
 - A student forgetting equipment and realizing it halfway to the game.
 - The joy of driving home after a big win (or the quiet after a tough loss).
- **Pride in the Job**

- You feel part of the team even though you don't play.
 - You enjoy seeing students succeed and represent the school.
 - You take safety seriously — you're trusted with precious cargo.
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Possible Anecdotes (Use if Asked)

- “Once, after a long band competition, I swear half the kids were asleep before we left the parking lot.”
 - “I’ve had to track down tiny high schools out in the middle of nowhere with just a paper map or GPS.”
 - “The best part is hearing the cheers when the team wins — even from the driver’s seat, you can feel it.”
 - “One of the hardest parts is driving home in the snow while everyone else is dozing.”
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Tips for Staying in Character

- Be friendly and down-to-earth — you like the kids and enjoy the stories.
- Use humor (snoring students, messy gear, late-night tiredness).
- Drop little sensory details: the smell of sweaty uniforms, the sound of a tuba case clunking, the silence after a loss.
- Show pride: emphasize safety and being part of the school’s spirit.