



Seating Capacities



SCDE Interim Guidance for School Bus Operations

The following charts provides information on the standard seating capacities of school buses in the [SCDE](#) fleet, and the maximum number of students, by grade level, who should be transported at one time on those buses using the 66% -67% measure:

| 100% CAPACITY | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| BUS CAP. | 78 | 77 | 75 | 72 | 66 | 65 | 62 | 60 |
| ELEM | 78 | 77 | 75 | 72 | 66 | 65 | 62 | 60 |
| MIDDLE | 65 | 65 | 64 | 60 | 55 | 55 | 51 | 50 |
| HIGH | 58 | 57 | 56 | 54 | 50 | 49 | 46 | 45 |

| 66% CAPACITY | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| BUS CAP. | 78 | 77 | 75 | 72 | 66 | 65 | 62 | 60 |
| ELEM | 52 | 51 | 50 | 48 | 44 | 43 | 41 | 40 |
| MIDDLE | 43 | 43 | 43 | 40 | 37 | 37 | 34 | 33 |
| HIGH | 39 | 38 | 37 | 36 | 33 | 33 | 31 | 30 |



Seating Arrangements



[SCDE Interim Guidance for School Bus Operations](#)

To the extent possible, students should fill seats from the rear of the bus to the front of the bus during morning student pick up.

It is recommended that on trips returning students to their home after school, students should load the bus with those being dropped off last loading the *rear* of the bus, and those being dropped off first loading toward the *front* of the bus.



Seating Arrangements



[SCDE Interim Guidance for School Bus Operations](#)

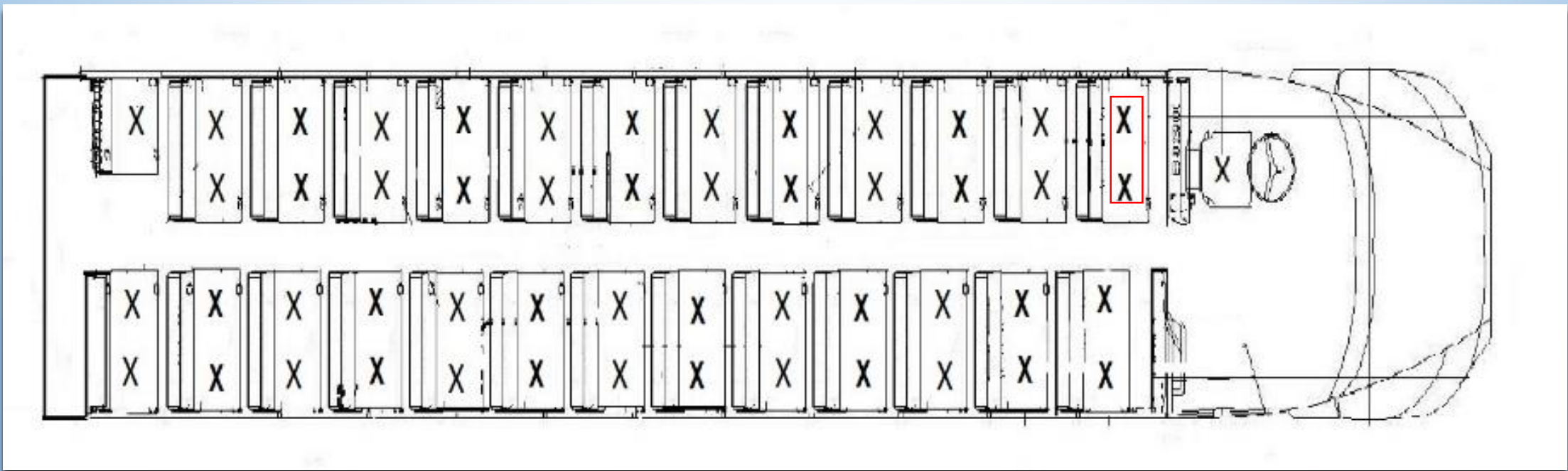
This will limit the amount of incidental contact by students who are exiting by keeping them from passing or congregating in close proximity to others as they exit the bus. Districts should consider using assigned seating to assist with contact-tracing, should the need arise.



Example Seating Arrangements



The following examples are provided to show recommended seating arrangements.



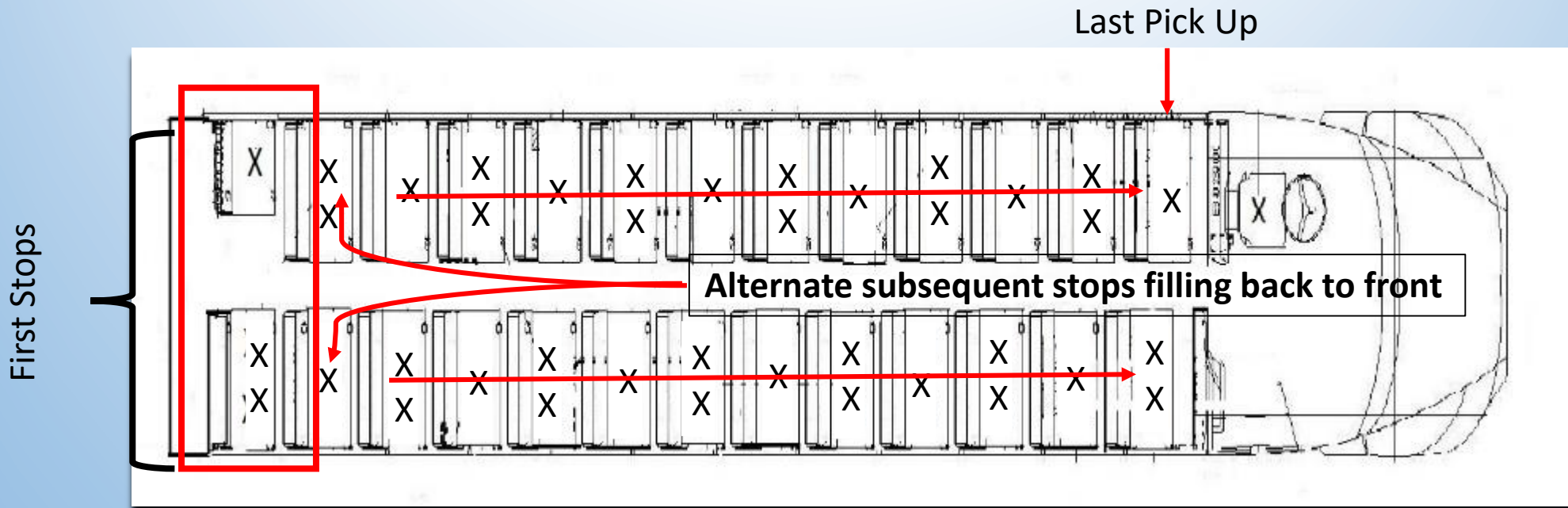
(Example: 77 Passenger Bus transporting Elementary students (49-51 Total))
[SCDE Interim Guidance for School Bus Operations](#)



Example Loading Arrangements (AM)



The following examples are provided to show recommended loading arrangements for morning routes.



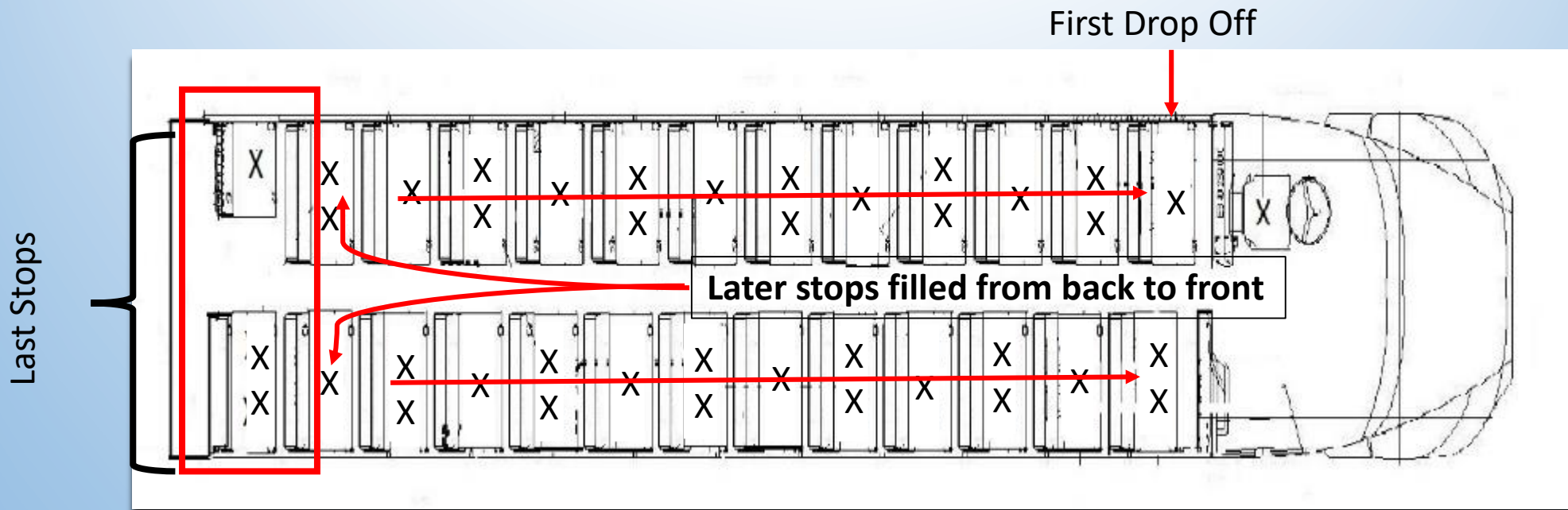
(Example: 77 Passenger Bus transporting High School students (38-39 Total))



Example Loading Arrangements (PM)



The following examples are provided to show recommended unloading arrangements for afternoon routes.



(Example: 77 Passenger Bus transporting High School students (38-39 Total))



Seating Arrangements: Additional Considerations



[SCDE Interim Guidance for School Bus Operations](#)

Students sitting together are not required to be from the same household. Districts may decide to include this requirement so long as it does not become restrictive to capacity.

For routes that combine grade/age levels or service more than one school per route, districts may modify their capacity based on the combination of students, not to exceed 66%-67% of total standard capacity of the bus. Districts may consider seating by age group or school attended.