

TRANSPORTATION PROTOCOLS

As safe bus transportation plays a key role in student learning, the District is committed to providing safe and efficient transportation in a caring manner.

School bus transportation may be provided to:

- Students residing more than 3.0 kilometers from his/her neighborhood catchment area school or stop.

Bus services are sometimes provided to students within the walk limits on a case-by-case basis, providing there is available seating on the bus and time in the schedule. Courtesy riders are riders that are requesting busing for outside of their school catchment area. Courtesy riders will be granted based on available seating. Courtesy seats are only valid for the current school year.

School bus rider rules:

Student behaviour is a significant factor in bus safety. Traveling on a school bus is a privilege which may be suspended or revoked if a student is not observing Codes of Conduct and the following procedures:

1. Students should be at the bus stop 10 minutes before scheduled pickup time.
2. Passengers must remain seated while the bus is in motion.
3. Students shall sit facing forward with their feet in front of them.
4. Do not put arms, hands or head out the window.
5. The aisle of the bus must be kept clear at all times.
6. No food or beverages may be consumed on the school bus. (other than a student's personal water bottle).
7. Do not throw garbage/objects on the floor or out the window.
8. Loud or noisy behavior is prohibited, as this is distracting to the Bus Driver.
9. Guest riders are not permitted to ride on the school bus.
10. Parent permission is required before a passenger may be dropped off at an alternate stop AP 770(5.3).
11. Possession/use of drugs, tobacco, vape pens or alcohol is prohibited on the school bus.
12. Musical Instruments may be permitted on the school bus provided the student can hold the instrument in their lap or store it under the seat. (check with your bus driver before bringing band instruments onto the school bus).

Parents'/Guardians' Responsibility:

1. Determine how your child will safely travel to and from school or to and from the bus pick-up and drop-off locations.
2. Ensure your child safely arrives at the bus stop 10 minutes before scheduled pick-up time.
3. If your child requires adult supervision for bus drop-off, please ensure you or your designate are there 10 minutes before scheduled drop-off time.
4. If the bus does not arrive within 15 minutes of the pick-up time, students should return home or to a site designated by the parent or guardian.
5. Parents/Guardians are to read, understand, and have discussed with their child(ren), to the terms and conditions of the Transportation Protocols for riding the school bus.

The School Bus Driver is responsible for passenger safety, please respect and follow the bus rider rules at all times.

Getting to and from the School Bus Stop

1. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure their child's safety getting to and from the bus stop or when waiting for the bus to arrive at the bus stop.
2. Plan your child's walking route, review street names and landmarks while walking together.
3. Make sure your child understands what to do if the bus is late or does not arrive at the bus stop.

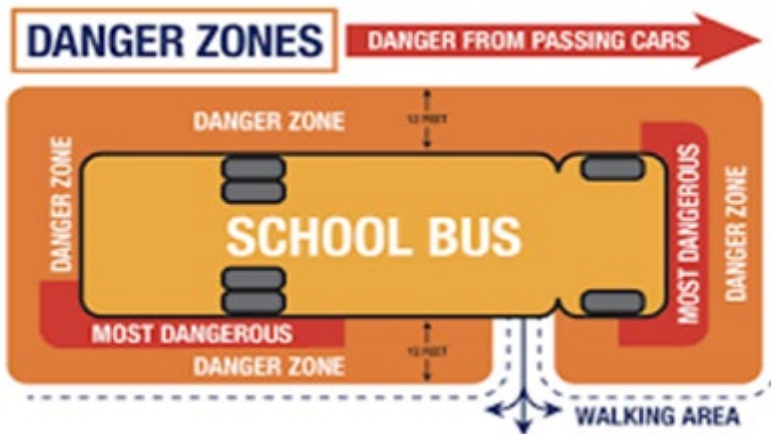
Waiting for the School Bus

1. Students shall gather in the "Safe Zone" at the bus stop
2. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the passenger door is open before entering or preparing to leave the school bus.
3. Do not run or chase after the school bus, you may be in the "Danger Zone" and the driver may not see you.

Loading and Unloading from the School Bus

1. ONLY cross in front of the school bus when the RED ALTERNATING LIGHTS are activated.
2. NEVER cross behind the school bus.
3. Always wait for the "signal to cross" from the bus driver.
4. Board in a single line and do not push or crowd your way on or off the school bus.
5. Go directly to your assigned seat and remain seated as the bus driver may not depart the bus stop unless all passengers are seated.

Parents should not interfere with the loading or unloading procedure. If you have a concern, please contact transportation Services, do not try to discuss with the driver at the bus stop.



Set a good example

- **Look** left-right-left and shoulder check before crossing. Make eye contact with drivers and keep looking for approaching vehicles while crossing.
- **Listen.** Remove your headphones so you can hear approaching traffic that may be hard to see.
- **Be seen.** Wear reflective materials or bright clothes and use lights after dark.
- Walk on the inside edge of the sidewalk away from the road. If there's **no sidewalk** - walk facing oncoming traffic, so you can see approaching vehicles.
- **Always use crosswalks** and follow the pedestrian signals.



"WE STOP – YOU STOP"

Flashing Red Lights Mean STOP

(This includes at our schools and in our bus lanes)

Safety is Everyone's Responsibility

The bus driver is the authority on the bus at all times. Discipline matters will be referred to the Principal or Vice Principal.

Bus drivers are authorized to:

- Drive the bus and its riders to a location where a school Principal or District-based Administrator can take appropriate action if there are concerns regarding discipline, safety or other exceptional circumstances.

The bus must transport students safely. Any action that may cause an unsafe condition will not be tolerated. Misbehavior will result in disciplinary steps and possible loss of bus riding privileges.

