

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

For those students who qualify, transportation will be furnished by the District. **Bus drivers will be notifying parents of transportation arrangements and pick-up times.** Bus drivers will also review with parents and students the regulations for conduct and safe bus ridership at this time.

The Board of Education requests your cooperation in controlling the excess use of our in-town bus service by students who are not eligible to ride. The district receives transportation aid for elementary pupils who reside one mile or more from school, and for secondary pupils who reside two miles or more from school. What has been happening over the past several years is students who are not eligible were riding the bus when they could be walking to school. This type of situation creates real problems for scheduling of routes and is a safety concern for the district. Therefore, we are asking that during the fall and spring seasons, members of your family who are in grades 6-12, and not eligible for transportation, are to walk to school when the weather is nice. We in turn will, during the cold winter months, provide transportation for those in grades 6-12 who need a ride.

Since the school district furnishes transportation, there will be no payments made to individuals who transport pupils. Should some students wish to furnish their own transportation, the cost of that transportation will be theirs. The district encourages every student who is entitled to transportation to ride the bus at least twenty times per year so that the district can realize maximum state transportation aid.

IMPORTANT: Every student that rides a district school bus will be trained and show competence in seven areas of safety and conduct. The seven competencies are: 1) Know that transportation by bus is a privilege and not a right; 2) know the district student conduct and safety policies; 3) know appropriate conduct on the school bus; 4) know the danger zones around a school bus; 5) know safe boarding and disembarking procedures; 6) know safe vehicle land crossing procedures; 7) know safe bus evacuation and other emergency procedures. Students not able to demonstrate and apply the above competencies by October 15 of each school year are subject to having their transportation privileges denied. Students will be trained this fall.

Parents and students are reminded that bus transportation is a privilege. Regulations governing safe and courteous conduct while riding the bus are posted in each bus and are listed below. Individuals that cannot abide by these ridership regulations may lose their ridership privileges. Bus drivers are responsible for the safe and courteous conduct of all students. We encourage our drivers to contact parents when a problem is developing and before it gets out of hand. However, if all else fails, the offending student(s) can lose riding privileges either temporarily or permanently. In cases where property has been damaged or destroyed or a violation of the law is suspected, the district will notify county law enforcement for investigation and if necessary, prosecution.

FOLLOW THESE BUS RULES

1. Load and unload buses only when stopped.
2. Remain seated when the bus is in motion.
3. You may talk to the driver when the bus is not moving.
4. Know all bus emergency exits and procedures.
5. Use inside voices when talking on the bus.
6. Listen and follow directions given by the driver. Show respect to the bus driver, other passengers, and the bus.
7. No profanity, suggestive language, throwing objects, hanging out the window.
8. Bus aisles must be kept free.
9. No person may walk behind the bus when it is loading or unloading (Recommended safety zone is 10 feet on all sides)
10. The bus driver has the authority to assign seats.
11. Students may have food and beverages on the bus providing wrappers and containers are disposed of properly (if approved by Driver). If abuse of rules occur, all riders may lose these privileges.
12. Drivers will make every attempt to be on schedule to promote safety.
13. No weapons will be permitted on school buses.
14. Clothing bearing messages of violent or sexual nature may not be worn.
15. For the safety of all: Avoid horseplay, avoid distracting the driver, line up in an orderly manner when entering/exiting the bus and remain outside the bus safety zone - if you can touch the bus, you are too close.
16. School district policy prohibits the following: Tobacco, alcohol, and controlled substances; the use of profanity, and harassment of any kind
17. Generally the same behavior is expected of the school bus riders as is expected of the student in the classroom. T
18. No nuisance articles are allowed.
19. All students will be instructed in proper bus safety.

**District 2184 Busses may periodically be equipped with video cameras