



## Frequently Asked Questions About Buses

### **Basic Questions:**

***How do I get a bus assigned to my child?*** The transportation department uses FinalForms for all bus assignments. As a part of registering your child for school, you will be given a FinalForms account. Once you log into in the account you can sign up for transportation and can manage any requests for pickup and drop-off locations. Please note: If you have not filled out the FinalForms page we are unable to transport your child until the forms are completed.

***Can I have my child dropped/picked up off at different locations?*** Yes. The District allows you to choose one location in the morning and one in the afternoon.

***What do I need to do if I need to change pick up of drop off locations?*** Go to FinalForms and request the change. You can always contact the transportation department with any questions (513.467.3215), but you will need to make any formal request for changes through FinalForms.

***What do I need to do if I have an emergency and I need my child to ride on a different bus for a short period of time?*** If an emergency arises please contact the transportation department immediately to request a temporary change. ***Your child's teacher, principal, or secretaries cannot make the change.*** These temporary requests will be decided on a case-by-case basis and are reserved for emergency situations or an event that may only take place for a week or two.

***When will I receive the information about my child's route?*** Route information, including stop times, will go out in late July or early August.

***What should I expect when my child's bus arrives?*** Ohio law requires children to be waiting at the bus stop prior to its arrival. Bus drivers count the students at the bus stop before they load and as they get on the bus to ensure all children are safely on board. If students are not waiting at the bus stop, the bus driver cannot count them and cannot be certain the students are all safely on board. Waiting at the bus stop before the bus arrives further ensures that no one chases after the bus – this is a very dangerous thing to do. Our drivers are instructed not to stop at locations where no students are waiting.

## **Your Child's Safety:**

The NHTSA says that traveling by school bus is seven times safer than traveling by car or truck. For perspective, 58% of child fatalities during normal school travel hours were in cars driven by teenagers. 23% of such fatalities were in cars driven by an adult. Kids riding on school buses accounted for less than 1% of such fatalities. Simply put, school buses are THE SAFEST mode of transportation for kids traveling to and from school.

Help us continue to make your child's ride a safe one by instructing them to follow the rules.

- State law requires your child to be standing at the bus stop before the bus arrives.
- State law forbids the eating of food, candy, gum, etc., or consuming drinks (including water) while on a school bus.
- Talk with your child about the importance of remaining seated during the bus ride, including putting their back to the back of the seat and having their seat on the seat and feet facing the floor.
- It is important that your child follows all instructions of the driver.

**Safety Training:** When school starts we will have several opportunities for training your child on bus safety. There is classroom training, training by the drivers, and in early October we operate three evacuation drills in case of fire.

## **Communication:**

Please feel free to contact the transportation department with any questions you may have. Our phone number is 513-467-3215. The department hours during school days are from 5:45 AM - 5:00 PM.