

Kindergarten Transportation Common Questions and Answers

Welcome. Kindergarten is the start of an exciting academic adventure for your child, and we are pleased to provide you with answers to commonly asked questions about the district's transportation services. When you enroll your kindergarten student, you will receive a packet of information from the Transportation Department that will provide you with additional information.

Q. Can I have my child transported to a day-care facility?

Each child is allowed one pick-up and one drop-off address. The pick-up address may be different from the drop-off address, but both must be consistent every day.

We do not service private day-care facilities; however, a parent or guardian can request alternate busing for day care purposes if the alternate stop meets the following criteria: 1) Eligibility is determined by the student's home address. The alternate address must be within the school's attendance boundary. 2) The alternate route must be an existing stop on the bus run. 3) The alternate bus cannot be within 10% of load capacity.

The Transportation Department must have a hard copy on file of Form #076-4, *Request for Alternate Address Busing*, prior to scheduling. It may take up to ten working days to process the information and assign routing. If your child should need to resume transportation services from your home address, a new form must be completed and processed by Transportation Services prior to making the change.

Q. What happens if I'm not home when the bus delivers my kindergartener?

Either the primary care giver or the designated guardian must be present at the bus stop during the assigned delivery time to receive the child. Parents or guardians can designate up to four adults to pick-up their child at the bus stop by completing a *Kindergarten Bus Stop Release Form* and returning it to the Transportation Department.

Bus drivers will verify the identity of the designated caretaker prior to releasing the child at the bus stop. If there is an emergency where a parent or guardian may be late picking up the child, they must: 1) Contact the Transportation Department in time for the driver to be notified, or 2) Notify both the school office and the Transportation Department that their child will be picked up at the school.

Your child's safety, rather than convenience, will always come first.

Q. If my child is late to the bus stop, can he/she go to another one?

No. If you are running late to the bus stop, you need to take your child directly to school. For safety reasons, we cannot have children or parents pursuing the bus when it is in motion.

Q. How do I know if everything is OK if the bus is running late?

Traffic, weather, and other conditions beyond our control can cause the bus to run late. As such, we incorporate a ten-minute window to allow for such circumstances. In the event of a bus running considerably late, every effort is made by the Transportation Department and/or your child's school to notify you. If your child's bus is considerably later than usual and you have not received notification, please contact your child's school office or the Transportation Department for information.

Q. What happens if my child misses getting off the bus at their assigned bus stop?

Bus drivers are required to check their busses at the end of their runs for any students left on the bus. If the driver has an "extra" child at the end of their bus run, they will first notify dispatch, and then deliver the child back to their assigned stop. Every attempt will be made to contact the family and school office in order to make them aware of the situation and to provide them with an estimated drop-off time. If there is a substitute driver or the student is new, the driver will contact the Transportation Department in an attempt to locate the child's information. The student will then be transported appropriately. *Please note that it is helpful to have your child's name and stop information available in their school bag/back pack at all times.*