

## **Parent Notification Regarding School Bus Transportation:**

As we prepare for a return back into our hybrid instructional schedule, it is important to communicate to our parents/guardians that the District continues to highly encourage parents/guardians to transport their child(ren) to and from school if they are able to do so. Doing so will allow for appropriate social distancing on the school buses for our students who are unable to be driven to and from school by a family member or friend. Your cooperation with this matter during our Fall hybrid on-site learning model has been very helpful in creating a safe and functional school bus ride for our students, during this unprecedented time. Please carefully read the information below, regarding school bus transportation for the Acmetonia Elementary School hybrid on-site learning model, beginning January 19, 2021.

- School buses will not to be filled to more than 50% of capacity
- Siblings or neighborhood friends will be assigned to sit two to a seat, and, if possible, one student per seat in the remaining rows. Given the confined spaces on the buses, six feet of distance between students would not be possible in some situations.
- Under the current universal face covering order, all bus drivers, students, and staff are required to wear a face mask while on the bus and in the school building. The only exceptions would be in circumstances where a face mask is not possible due to an underlying medical or mental health condition or disability. Therefore, parents should be aware that there could be some students who are unable to use a face covering while traveling.
- W.L. Roenigk Transportation will have a supply of masks on the school buses/vans, if needed.
- Students are required to sit in their assigned seat every day.
- Bus routes will run on their current schedule; however, as in a normal beginning of a school year, during the first week of school or in this case after a combination of remote learning and a holiday break, parents/students should monitor bus route times and talk to the bus driver about their pick-up and drop-off times. Current bus stop times are estimates.
- Individuals, including parents, guardians, and other caregivers, are not permitted on the bus, unless absolutely necessary (i.e., to assist a student with a disability).
- Students should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before or immediately upon entering the school bus.
- Bus loading of students into seats will be from back to front to limit students walking past other students to find a seat. Unloading procedures will be from front to back.
- To minimize additional student contact, students can only be transported to and from school and home or daycare on a regular basis (i.e. there will be no special arrangements such as going home instead of day care on a particular day or getting on the bus at a friend's house, etc.). Similarly, schedules that vary by day (where a student gets dropped off or picked up at different locations during the week) will not be possible; students must go to and from the same address, four

days/week. Parent/guardian(s) will be responsible for transportation to and from other locations.

- School bus windows will to be open for ventilation to increase open air flow throughout the vehicle. School bus windows will be appropriately adjusted in regards to bus capacity and weather conditions.
- No sharing of toys or any personal items will be permitted.
- Upon entering the school building, students will go directly to a sanitizing station to disinfect their hands and then make their way directly to their assigned classroom or the school cafeteria for a grab-and-go breakfast.
- Students will not be allowed to congregate in a lobby, hallway, or cafeteria before school starts.
- Upon leaving the school building, students should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before or immediately upon entering the school bus.
- Students should go directly to their assigned school bus. Students will not be allowed to congregate in a lobby, hallway, etc. at the conclusion of the school day.
- School bus safety railings and seats will be sanitized twice a day, after the morning runs and again after the afternoon runs are done. School buses will be thoroughly clean and disinfected daily, in the evening.
- Parents will be alerted via Blackboard Connect and/or See Saw regarding any necessary changes.
- If your situation changes at any time during the school year, even if you have declined bus transportation upon return of school, your child(ren) may still obtain transportation services later in the year.
- Although, there will be many parents planning to transport their child(ren) to and from school, all bus stops will remain active in the event that they are needed.
- Please remember that individuals who are self-quarantining or have been diagnosed with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 should not drop off or pick-up children from the bus stop.
- Please remember to update contact information with the school and have a plan to pick-up your child, if your child becomes ill at school.
- All information, guidance, and planning are subject to change.