

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The below regulations/responsibilities should be reviewed with your student(s), not only for his/her safety, but also to insure the safety of all others on and around all school vehicles.

1. Help your student(s) to be on time at the bus stop (10 minutes prior to the assigned time). It is the parent's responsibility to transport the student(s) directly to the assigned school when the student misses the bus. Please do not follow the bus to another stop along the route. Students may *only* board the bus at their designated stop. Not following these directions will result in the student receiving a write up for the incident.
2. Students in grades PreK-3 must be accompanied to and from the bus by a parent or guardian (unless permission is issued to the transportation office in writing; stating student may be released to someone else or unaccompanied). Should a child not have a parent or guardian at the stop to receive their child, they shall be returned to their school and/or police department and you will be required to pick them up. Special needs students in grades 4-8 will also follow the same set of rules.
3. Assume responsibility in teaching your child to cooperate with the driver and insist on correct behavior while waiting for and riding the school bus.
4. Do not ask the driver to stop at places other than the designated stop. Drivers do not have the authority to change routes, stops, or times.
5. If you have questions about your bus stop or route, please call the Transportation Department. Do not delay the bus while students are loading or unloading. All routes are very time sensitive.
6. Cooperate with school officials in discharging discipline requirements in support of safe riding behavior. Parental assistance in this matter is extremely important.
7. Parents are responsible for any student(s) damaging property at a bus stop and for any damage caused to a school vehicle.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE/GUIDELINES

N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2; provides that the driver shall be in charge of the school bus at all times and shall be responsible for order on the bus. Every pupil shall be accountable for his or her own actions. The bus driver shall write referrals and report any unmanageable pupil to the principal of the school, which he or she attends.

A pupil can be excluded from the bus for disciplinary reasons by the principal, and his/her parents shall provide for their transportation to and from school during the period of such exclusion.

Any student not in compliance with the rules and regulations of the bus as listed will be subject to the consequences per BOE Policies 5600 and 8600, the Code of Student Conduct and transportation regulations as follows:

Elementary School

- 1st Infraction = Verbal warning and parent notification
- 2nd Infraction = Parent notification, assigned seat, and/or short-term removal from bus.
- 3rd Infraction = Parent notification and indefinite removal from the bus.

Middle School

- 1st Infraction = Verbal warning and parent notification.
- 2nd Infraction = Parent notification, central detention, assigned seat, and/or short-term removal from bus.
- 3rd Infraction = Parent notification, indefinite removal from the bus, and short-term suspension.

High School

- 1st Infraction = Parent notification and one week removal from the bus.
- 2nd Infraction = Parent notification and one-month removal from the bus.
- 3rd Infraction = Parent notification, indefinite removal from the bus, and short-term suspension.

Serious violations may require skipping of steps and imposing immediate and/or extended exclusion from the bus.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION



RULES, RESPONSIBILITIES, REGULATIONS & INFRACTIONS

PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

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STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

The information below is provided by the Piscataway Township Board of Education Transportation Department to ensure safe and effective transportation for all bus riders.

MILEAGE LIMITS/MEASUREMENTS

The District provides mandated transportation to and from school(s) for all students in Grades PreK-8 who reside more than two (2) miles and students in Grades 9-12 who reside more than two and a half (2.5) miles from their assigned school.

Measurement is determined by the shortest distance along public roadways or walkways between the entrance to the student's home closest to the roadway and the walkway to the nearest public entrance of the school building (As per N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 & N.J.A.C. 6:21-1.3b).

SUBSCRIPTION BUSING

Subscription bussing (when offered) is for non-remote students who do not meet the mileage requirements and wish to utilize and pay for bussing.

Registration for subscription busing is available starting in the Spring of each year on the district website under Community Pass Online registration. The deadline for subscription busing is June 30th or the next business day. Full payment is due with completed registration.

Seat assignments will be on a first-come first-serve basis and assigned as follows:

- Date full payment and application are received
- Closest existing bus stop
- On an existing bus route
- Filled on an available seat basis

Any application(s) received after June 30th, will be considered a "late application". Late applications will not be reviewed for placement on a bus until the third week of school. If there is no available seat(s), the application will be placed on a waiting list for the closest route and will be given the next available seat based on the date the application was received.

ROUTES AND STOPS

1. Routes are arranged so vehicles traverse the roadways that serve the greatest numbers of students safely within a reasonable time limit and at minimal cost to the taxpayers and district.
2. Vehicles are not required to leave the main route to pick up students, and at no time are they authorized to traverse lanes, unpaved roads, or cul-de-sacs.
3. Routes and stops will be reviewed annually to determine the safest, most efficient, and timely route for students and drivers.
4. Stops will be established in order to pick up and drop off the greatest number of students at once.
5. All concerns regarding stops and routes must be addressed to the Transportation Office, not the driver.

ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS

1. Prior to the opening of school in September, students will be assigned to a specific route, and a specific bus stop. Bus passes will be mailed to students indicating route, stop, and time assignment. Student buses and stop assignments are the same for AM pick up and PM drop off.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Be at your designated stop 10 minutes prior to the scheduled bus arrival time. *Please note: buses may get to your stop later than normal the first week of school due to time spent checking student bus passes and increased back-to-school traffic.*
2. Never stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus. When possible stand on the sidewalk!
3. Stay in the "SAFE ZONE" - ten feet in front of the bus. Never cross behind the bus.
4. Always remain seated, facing forward wearing your seatbelt and behave in a courteous manner.
5. No eating, drinking, smoking, or vaping.

6. Students are not permitted to ride on any bus other than the one to which they have been assigned, unless approved by the Transportation Department.
7. Keep conversations at a "normal" volume, no vulgar language/gestures to the driver, other passengers, or passersby. This is a serious safety issue; any distraction to the driver may result in an accident.
8. Keep all body parts inside the vehicle at all times.
9. The bus driver is responsible for order on the bus at all times. He/she reserves the right to assign seats, grant permission to open windows (a good rule of thumb-you open it, you close it), and provide safe transport to all students to/from school.
10. Musical instruments, sports equipment, school projects, etc. are not permitted on the bus unless the student can carry the object safely on his/her lap. All sports equipment must be carried in a bag.
11. Defacing/damaging property at a stop or on the bus is not permitted. Charges will be issued for damages incurred as well as bus privileges may be revoked.
12. The District/Contractor is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged property.