

FREQUENTLY ASK QUESTIONS...

about Transportation in USD 417



Is there a fee to ride the bus?

The routes provided are free of charge. Our district provides town stops although we receive no state funding.

Can my child ride any bus or get off at any stop?

Students will be assigned to a bus based on their home address. In order to ride a different bus, or to get off at a different stop, parents must complete the transportation information during enrollment.

Requests for transportation other than home must be approved in advance by the transportation director.

Do I need to call when my student will not be riding the bus?

Please contact your regular route driver OR call the USD 417 office at 767-5192, if your student is picked up door to door. If your student gets picked up at a regular bus stop you do not need to call.

How long does the driver wait at a bus stop?

The bus will not wait for students – they must be visible and ready to board the bus. Students should be waiting at the bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to their pick-up time; and they should go directly to the bus when school dismisses for take-home.

Will the driver “honk” at the bus stop so that my student knows when to come out to the bus?

No. Buses will stop when students are visible. Students should always be ready and at their stop at least 5-10 minutes before the scheduled pick up time waiting for the bus.

What happens if my student misses the bus?

Students should go directly to the bus when school dismisses for take-home. If they miss the bus, they will need to call their parents and find alternate transportation.

Will the bus pick up my student at our house?

Town students will be picked up at established bus stops. Special needs and rural students will be picked up at the end of the driveway of your home.

Does my child have an assigned seat on the bus?

This varies by route. Drivers do have the authority to assign seats.

Do you provide transportation for my preschool student?

Preschool students may ride a route bus if it is a regular stop for their siblings (rural students only). Transportation is provided for Prairie Heights students to and from the PHES school building.

How does After School Sports Transportation work?

Students sign up daily in the office for transportation. Bus will deliver to the approved stops only. Students must ride if they sign up – Misuse of this may result in loss of privilege.

Do you return students home after activity trips?

No, the bus returns to the school the student attends. If an approved stop (that is on the route) has been requested in advance, a student may be left there. (The driver will stop if the request has been approved in advance and appears on their manifest)

Can students bring food or drinks on the bus?

Students should not bring food or drinks on route buses, except for a bottle of water during hot weather. There are exceptions based on the length of the route.

Can students bring band instruments on the bus?

Instruments are allowed on the bus if the student can hold it on their lap. Larger instruments, like the tuba and French horn for example, are too large to be transported safely on the bus.

Are students allowed to carry glass jars or other fragile items on the bus for school projects?

Glass objects of any kind are not allowed on the bus. All items should fit in a back pack or a bag small enough to carry on the student's lap, and should not contain glass or fragile items which can easily break.

Are animals allowed on the bus?

No. The only exception would be service animals with prior approval of the Special Ed Coop.

If my student gets in trouble on the bus will I be notified?

Yes. This is detailed in the Bus Handbook.

What if the bus does not show up?

Call the transportation office and we will find out what is happening and try to give you an estimated time of arrival.

Please contact the District Office at 767-5192 if you have any questions