

TRANSPORTATION FAQ'S

1. When should a student be at the bus stop?

Students should be at the bus stop five to ten minutes before the bus is due to arrive. Waiting in the house or in vehicles is an unsafe practice because it delays boarding time and the bus route.

2. How can I request a bus or change bus stop?

If you would like to change your child's bus stop and would like us to review, please fill out the Regular Ed Transportation Request Form. found on the www.warwickschools.org Transportation page or from your school's main office.

3. If I move during the school year, how do I change my child's bus stop?

The WPS Transportation Department cannot process an address change. Please go to the Central Registration Department with required proofs of residency and fill out a "change of address" form. After you have changed your address at the registration department, the Transportation Department will assign your child to a new bus stop if he or she is eligible for transportation. If you move during the school year, your child can stay in the same school—but he or she may no longer be eligible for transportation services.

4. If the bus is late, will my child be marked tardy?

The student will be marked tardy, but tardiness due to "bus transportation" is excused and does not count.

5. Do buses travel down dead end roads?

School buses cannot travel down these roads as it is unsafe to back up with students on the bus. Cul-de-Sacs must have a large enough area to make a successful turn in for a bus to access to the road.

6. Who would I contact if my child forgets something or loses something on the bus?

Please contact First Student at 401-739-1980 for assistance.

7. Do buses have radios or phones so the driver can be contacted or call for help?

Yes, all buses have two-way radios. They are also equipped with GPS (Global Positioning System) to help locate vehicles in case there is an emergency. Drivers are not permitted to use cellphones while the bus is in motion.

8. Whom should I call if my child is having a problem with the driver or with another student on the bus?

Please contact your child's school Principal.

9. Do school buses have monitors?

It is mandated by law to have monitors on all K-5 bus routes. Buses can operate under an approved variance during a monitor shortage. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a bus monitor, you can find applications on the Warwick Public Schools website-www.warwickschools.org.

10. How many students are allowed on each bus?

This varies according to the size of the bus. Full-size buses can transport up to 71 elementary school students. Passengers are not allowed to stand. For safety reasons, only assigned students are allowed on school buses.

TRANSPORTATION FAQ'S

11. Do school buses have seat belts?

Large school buses do not require seat belts. Smaller buses are equipped with both seat belts and child safety restraint systems that are designed for preschool aged students. All WPS school buses meet all federal and state safety standards.

12. What responsibilities does the bus driver have while transporting children? The driver is responsible for delivering students to and from school safely and on time. Responsibilities include: operation of the vehicle; supervision of boarding and discharge; supervision of students while riding the bus; reporting safety and behavior incidents to the principal; and (if applicable) being sure that child restraint systems or wheelchair securement systems are used.

13. How is the distance from school determined for all students?

It is measured by using the shortest walking route from the front of a student's home to the main door of the school. Please visit www.warwickschools.org/buses-transportation/ to review the School Committee Walkers and Riders policy.

14. Will the bus routes and schedules stay the same?

The bus routes are adjusted annually as determined by the transportation department.

15. May a student not eligible for busing ride home with a friend?

Riding with a friend is not encouraged, but has been permitted, under specific circumstances.