



GETTING TO

GDS

**Hopper Transportation
Program 2020–21**

www.gds.org/Transportation

How will YOUR child(ren) get to school next year?

Georgetown Day School offers a variety of transportation options to help our busy families navigate travel to and from school and meet our transportation requirements. As we prepare for unification in the 2020-21 school year, we are doubling the number of shuttle routes and stops and adding some exciting programming. Check out an overview of the transportation offerings for 2020-21 on the following pages. Important transportation news and updated information can also be found on the GDS website and MyGDS Parent Resource page.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Neighborhood Agreement
2	Carpooling Neighborhood Street Restrictions Early Grasshopper Program
7	Biking
8 - 9	Walking Public Transit
10	GDS Shuttle Routes
11 - 12	GDS Buses





Among the exciting changes for the 2020-21 school year are changes to how we get to school. Please review the selection of transportation options below to determine which works best for your family. It is important that you take the time to do so as our neighborhood agreement requires requires carpooling, busing, and transit. Students may only be dropped off alone on campus in the four very specific cases listed below.

As part of our neighborhood agreement and legal commitments to the BZA, the only students who may be dropped off alone on campus by car are:

- › Students in PK, K, or 1st grade
- › Students with physical disabilities
- › Students being dropped off before 7:30 a.m. (LMS Students must participate in the Early Grasshopper Program. HS students may be dropped off at School early.)
- › Students identified by the school as being too far away from transit, GDS shuttle bus, and other GDS families to make it realistically possible to find an alternate way to school. These families will be informed that they are exempted from the requirement.

If your family fits into one of these categories, you will receive specific information from the School over the summer as well as a window cling tag designating your exemption status.

Should you have questions after reviewing these materials, reach out to ImproveMyCommute@gds.org with questions.



CARPOOLING

Beginning in fall 2020, families driving to campus will be required to drop off at least two students at a time. If other commuting options don't work for you, consider joining a carpool, which can be a great way to reduce the amount of time you spend driving, while sharing the costs of fuel with others. There are also other advantages like decreasing traffic in school parking lots, reducing air pollution, and providing extra social time for children. GDS will recommend carpool matches once a year and you can also find your carpool match on MyGDS using the directory maps feature. Simply click on your zip code to find the families who live closest to you!

Neighborhood Street Restrictions

Families may not drop their children off in the vicinity of campus in lieu of driving onto campus itself. Our BZA agreement stipulates that no passenger pick-up or drop-off is permitted on any of the streets or alleys immediately adjacent to the campus. This includes Ellicott Street, 42nd Street, Chesapeake Street, River Road, 43rd Place, and 43rd Street. Families are also not permitted to park on neighborhood streets to walk their children to campus, nor may they park and wait for their children in the afternoons. Refer to the parent-student handbook for a full list of street restrictions.

Early Grasshopper Program and Free Breakfast for Early Arrivals

For families wishing to arrive early or who wish to still drive their 2nd-12th grader to school alone, drop-off before 7:30 a.m. is an option. LMS students arriving between 7:00-7:30 a.m. will participate in the Early Grasshopper Program, including a light breakfast and several activities, at no cost. HS students arriving between 7:00-7:30 a.m. will be invited to enjoy a free breakfast in the LMS dining hall before heading to the high school. More information about the Early Grasshopper Program is available online at www.gds.org/academics/extended-day/. Please note that there is a fee for arrival after 7:30 a.m. and after that time, 2nd-12th grade students may **not** be dropped off alone.

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STUDENT PARKING

Applications for student parking are distributed in the summer to eligible 11th and 12th graders. There is limited parking on campus and spaces will be allocated based on how many other students they are driving to school, distance from campus, and mobility concerns. The base parking fee is \$900 for the year. The zoning agreement requires charging \$1,200 for students living within a mile of school or red line metro and \$300 less per additional student in the car. More information is available in the Parent Student Handbook and on the Hopper Transportation Resource Board.



BIKING

GDS is dedicated to being a bike-friendly destination for students who choose to bike to campus. Unification will include new and improved bike racks inside both parking garages and along Davenport with updated security features. In addition, two bike lanes will be installed this summer along 42nd street between Wisconsin and Chesapeake to make immediate arrival to school safer.

Free Bike Safety Workshops and Events

Join us at these upcoming bike safety events at CityBikes (4810 Wisconsin Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016). Register online at gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com.

HS Students:

- › Fridays, March 6 and 13 from 12:10 to 1:00 p.m.
Bike Safety and Maintenance Classes, includes Pizza Lunch

PK–2nd Grade Students and Parents:

- › Saturday, March 7 from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m.
Bike safety class, including tips for parents to teach your child to ride a bike

3rd–8th Grade Students and Parents:

- › Saturday, March 7 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Bike safety class

All-School Events:

- › Wednesday, May 6
National Bike to School Day, including incentives for students who bike to school
 - › Friday, May 15
National Bike to Work Day, including incentives for students who bike to school.
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Additional summer bike safety workshops will take place in August. Stay tuned to www.gds.org/Transportation for details.



WALKING

Families who live within 1 mile of school are encouraged to walk to school each morning. Walking is good for the environment, good for health, and helps to build a strong community. GDS will also assist in the formation of walking buses, or groups of students and parents who walk together to school each day. If you would like to volunteer to lead a children's walking bus to school each morning, we would be happy to connect you with other parents in your neighborhood; simply email ImproveMyCommute@gds.org.

Free Pedestrian Safety Workshops

We encourage you and/or your child to join us for one of our upcoming pedestrian safety trainings in June and August. To register for the pedestrian safety trainings and learn more, please go to: gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com.



PUBLIC TRANSIT

Did you know that GDS is only 0.7 miles from the Friendship Heights Metro and only 0.5 miles from the Tenleytown Metro, both on the Red Line? With the addition of the Tenleytown Shuttle, which will run regularly before and after school, it couldn't be easier to take transit to school!



Direct Bus Lines

The following buses have stops on Wisconsin Ave at Chesapeake and/or Fessenden Streets, just one block from campus – as well as the Tenleytown and Friendship Heights metro stations:

- › WMATA buses 30, 31, 33, 37, N2

The following buses have stops at the Tenleytown Metro:

- › WMATA buses 96, H2, H3, H4, M4

The following buses have stops at the Friendship Heights Metro:

- › WMATA buses E4, E6, L8, N4, N6, T2
- › Friendship Heights Shuttle – more info at www.friendshipheightsmd.gov/shuttle.htm
- › Ride On buses 1, 11, 23, 29, 34

Learn more at WMATA.com and Rideon.app.



DC Students – Kids Ride Free Cards

Students living within the District are eligible for WMATA's Kids Ride Free (KRF) cards, which allow students to ride for free on Metrobus, the DC Circulator, and Metrorail within the District to get to school and school-related activities. To get a KRF card, complete an application at gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com starting July 1. Please note that cards are generally distributed a week or two before school starts, depending on when the cards are released to schools. Please expect at least 2 weeks after applying for the card before it is released to you.



MD and VA Students – Subsidized Transit Cards

GDS provides subsidized SmarTrip cards to students residing in Maryland and Virginia. To request your subsidized SmarTrip card, complete an application at gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com starting July 1. Please note that cards generally require a 2-week turnaround and are generally distributed for the student's first day of school. Subsidized SmarTrip cards have a value of up to \$100 per month and cost families \$35 per month unless the family receives financial aid, in which case the card is provided free of charge. Lost cards will be charged a \$10 replacement fee. Transit subsidies are available when school is in session only. More information is available on the Transportation Resource Board on MyGDS.



Transit Buddy Program

Beginning in the 2020-21 school year, GDS will offer a transit buddy program, pairing responsible high school students with younger peers. High School transit buddies will be responsible for meeting their younger buddies at a local transit stop and then making their way to GDS.

Transit Buddy Information for High School Students

High School transit buddies will be eligible for service hours as part of this experience. Interested students must complete an online application and will need to provide one teacher reference who can attest that the student has demonstrated the skills to be a positive role model. Transit buddies must attend a three-hour training in June or August. Students interested in applying to be a transit buddy should email ImproveMyCommute@gds.org for an application. Transit buddy applications are due by Friday, May 1, 2020.

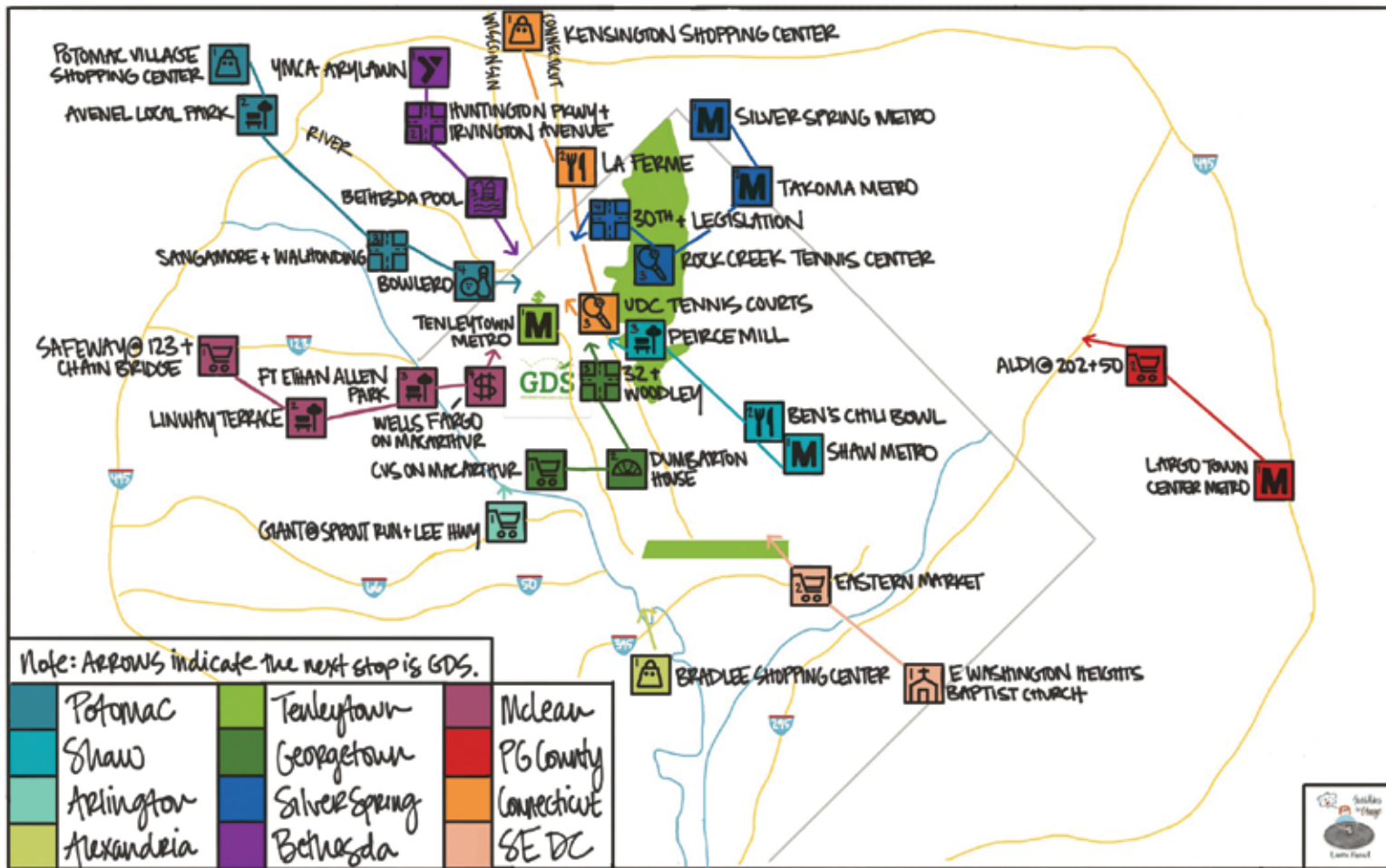
Transit Buddy Information for Lower/Middle School Families

To express interest in being paired with a transit buddy, apply for the program at gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com. Once the High School Transit Buddies have been selected, we will let families who have expressed interest know if one lives near you and would be a good candidate to help your children get to school via transit in the mornings, and potentially, get them home in the afternoons. More information will be shared with families over the summer and you will have an option to meet potential transit buddies before school starts.



Free Transit Safety Workshops

We will also be hosting public transit safety workshops for students before school begins in September as well as a self defense course for students in 4th-12th grade. Details about course times and dates will be shared prior to Spring Break. To register for either of these programs, go to gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com and check out the www.gds.org/Transportation for more information.





GDS BUSES

For the 2020-21 school year, GDS will offer 11 shuttle bus routes with a total of 31 bus stops. Each shuttle route will offer one morning pick-up and one afternoon drop-off. In addition, we will be offering a Tenleytown Metro shuttle which will run approximately every 12-15 minutes from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. and every 15 minutes from 3:45 p.m. until 6:45 p.m. daily. There is space for a maximum of 44 students per bus.

Save your child's spot on the bus at gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com starting in late spring. Watch your email for additional information.

Please note:

Pick-up and drop-off times and locations are subject to change based on ridership, traffic, and road conditions. Check out the MyGDS Hopper Transportation Program resource board for the most up to date information.

Tenleytown Metro Shuttle

The morning shuttle is open to any GDS student and anyone with a GDS ID. Families who live near the Tenleytown Metro or who ride public transit to school are welcome to use the shuttle. In the afternoons, all HS students and only LMS students who have permission to take the shuttle or take public transportation home in the afternoon may ride the shuttle. HS students wishing to take the shuttle back to campus in the afternoons must have a valid student ID. Over the summer, parents will receive information regarding giving their children permission to ride the shuttle bus in the afternoons.

Bus Parties and Tours of Campus!

Join us in August for a bus party and school tour! While geared towards Lower/Middle School families, all are invited to hop on at your registered bus stop to meet our bus drivers, participate in a fun-filled ride into school, a tour of the new building, and a light lunch, before returning to your starting location. Dates for mid- and late-August as well as specific pick-up and drop-off times will be confirmed by spring break. Save your spot on the Bus Party at gdscommutes.campbrainregistration.com.

Fees

For the 2020-21 school year, we have added some modest fees for the buses to offset the cost of the program. Financial aid is applicable to all fees at the same rate as applied to tuition. Fees are as follows:

\$2

per day for
morning
routes

\$6

per day for
afternoon
routes









\$10

per day for
registered
drop-in rides


\$15

per day for
unregistered
drop-in rides

www.gds.org/Transportation

ROUTE	STOP #	LOCATION	ADDRESS	EST. PICK-UP TIME	EST. DROP-OFF TIME
 Alexandria	1	Bradlee Shopping Center	3690 King St, Alexandria, VA 22302	7:05 a.m. – 7:15 a.m.	4:40 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.
 Arlington-Courthouse	1	Giant at Spout Run & Lee Highway	3115 Lee Hwy, Arlington, VA 22201	7:15 a.m. – 7:25 a.m.	4:15 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.
 Central Prince George's County	1	Largo Town Center Metro	Park and Ride at 9000 Lottsford Rd, Largo, MD 20774	6:55 a.m. – 7:05 a.m.	5:00 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.
	2	Aldi @ 202 & 50	6524 Landover Rd, Cheverly, MD 20785	7:10 a.m. – 7:20 a.m.	4:45 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.
 North Bethesda	1	YMCA Arylawn	5650 Oakmont Ave, Bethesda, MD 20817	7:35 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.	4:12 p.m. – 4:22 p.m.
	2	Huntington Pkwy & Irvington Ave	8401 Irvington Ave, Bethesda, MD 20817	7:40 a.m. – 7:50 a.m.	4:05 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
	3	Bethesda Pool	Pool parking lot close to 6300 Hillandale Rd, Bethesda, MD 20815	7:50 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	3:55 p.m. – 4:05 p.m.
 Connecticut Ave	1	Connecticut Ave & Knowles Ave Shopping Center	10506 Connecticut Ave, Kensington, MD 20895	7:10 a.m. – 7:20 a.m.	4:32 p.m. – 4:42 p.m.
	2	Brookville Rd & Taylor St (La Ferme Restaurant parking lot)	7101 Brookville Rd, Chevy Chase, MD 20815	7:30 a.m. – 7:40 a.m.	4:10 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.
	3	UDC Tennis Courts	Across from 3415 Yuma St NW, Washington, DC 20008	7:45 a.m. – 7:55 a.m.	3:55 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Georgetown	1	CVS on MacArthur Blvd	4859 MacArthur Blvd NW, Washington, DC 20007	7:25 a.m. – 7:35 a.m.	4:27 p.m. – 4:37 p.m.
	2	Dumbarton House	2715 Q St NW, Washington, DC 20007	7:40 a.m. – 7:50 a.m.	4:12 p.m. – 4:22 p.m.
	3	32nd St NW, Kingle St NW & Woodley Rd NW	Across the street from 3200 Woodley Rd NW, Washington, DC 20008	7:50 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.
 McLean	1	McLean Safeway	1330 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean, VA 22101	7:00 a.m. – 7:10 a.m.	4:25 p.m. – 4:35 p.m.
	2	Linway Terrace	6246 Linway Terrace, McLean, VA 22101	7:12 a.m. – 7:22 a.m.	4:17 p.m. – 4:37 p.m.
	3	Fort Ethan Allen Park	3829 N Stafford St, Arlington, VA 22207	7:20 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	4:10 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.
 8	4	Wells Fargo	5201 MacArthur Blvd NW, Washington, DC 20016	7:45 a.m. – 7:55 a.m.	4:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.

ROUTE	STOP #	LOCATION	ADDRESS	EST. PICK-UP TIME	EST. DROP-OFF TIME
 Potomac/ River Road	1	Potomac Village Shopping Center	9935 Falls Rd, Potomac, MD 20854	7:10 a.m. – 7:20 a.m.	4:32 p.m. – 4:42 p.m.
	2	Avenel Local Park	10051 Oaklyn Dr, Potomac, MD 20854	7:20 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	4:22 p.m. – 4:32 p.m.
	3	Sangamore & Walhonding (Behind Glen Echo Fire Dept)	Across the street from 5914 Walhonding Rd, Bethesda, MD 20816	7:40 a.m. – 7:50 a.m.	4:05 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
	4	Bowlero	5353 Westbard Ave, Bethesda, MD 20816	7:50 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	3:57 p.m. – 4:07 p.m.
 Shaw	1	Shaw Metro @ R St. between 7th St. and 8th St.	1701 8th St NW, Washington, DC 20001	7:25 a.m. – 7:35 a.m.	4:20 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
	2	Ben's Chili Bowl	1213 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009	7:30 a.m. – 7:40 a.m.	4:15 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.
	3	Pierce Mill	2401 Tilden St NW, Washington, DC 20008	7:45 a.m. – 7:55 a.m.	4:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.
 Silver Spring/ Takoma	1	Silver Spring Metro @ Park & Ride	1113 Bonifant St, Silver Spring, MD 20910	7:05 a.m. – 7:15 a.m.	4:40 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.
	2	Takoma Metro	7024 Eastern Ave NW, Washington, DC 20012	7:15 a.m. – 7:25 a.m.	4:27 p.m. – 4:37 p.m.
	3	Carter Barron (Rock Creek Tennis Center)	Tennis center parking lot at 4850 Colorado Ave NW, Washington, DC 20011	7:30 a.m. – 7:40 a.m.	4:10 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.
	4	Near 30th St. & Legation St. NW	5500 30th Place NW, Washington, DC	7:45 a.m. – 7:55 a.m.	4:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.
 Southeast	1	E. Washington Heights Baptist Church	2220 Branch Ave SE #3340, Washington, DC 20020	7:05 a.m. – 7:15 a.m.	5:05 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
	2	Eastern Market	225 7th St SE, Washington, DC 20003	7:20 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	4:45 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.
 Tenleytown Metro Shuttle	1	Tenleytown – AU Metro	4501 Wisconsin Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016		

 Buses will typically arrive at GDS between 8:05 and 8:10 a.m. and will typically depart campus between 3:50 and 3:55 p.m. The school day will begin 8:15 a.m. for LS and MS students and at 8:45 a.m. for HS students. The day will typically end at 3:15 p.m. for LS first bell students and HS students and at 3:30 p.m. for LS second bell students and MS students.



Learn to bike this summer at GDS!

GDS is teaming up with American Inline this June and July to offer four bike camp sessions from June 22 through July 17! In Learn to Bike Camp, 6- to 8-year-olds will learn both bike safety and skills, moving off of training wheels on the first day. In Bike Riding Camp, 8- to 10-year-olds will develop new skills and become more confident, safer bike riders. More information is online at summer.gds.org.

Build your child's commuting skills at Amazing Race: DC Discovery camp!

If you want your Middle or High School student to get some practice biking, walking, and taking public transit in the Tenleytown area in a controlled environment before school begins, check out our GDS Amazing Race: DC Discovery camp for rising 5th-8th graders July 27-31 and rising 9th-12th graders June 15-19 and August 10-14. This program will include a variety of collaborative and unique (and also highly supervised) challenges in the city involving travel by bus, metro, foot, and bike as well as a self-defense workshop. Register and read the program description at summer.gds.org.



HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Contact us at ImproveMyCommute@gds.org. Visit the GDS website (www.gds.org/Transportation) and MyGDS Parent Resource Board for up-to-date transportation news and information.