

# Olentangy Transportation Route Update

In January 2006, the Olentangy Local School Board of Education adopted a policy to determine transportation eligibility. The policy defines which students are eligible for transportation based on the distance of their residence to the school. Students who live more than one mile from the assigned school are eligible for transportation. Those who live one mile or less, as well as those who live in subdivisions adjacent to schools marginally beyond one mile with adequate walk paths, are not eligible for transportation.

Currently, a few communities are receiving transportation that are ineligible according to Board policy. As of the 2019-2020 school year, those students will no longer will receive transportation. In some situations, application of Board policy was delayed due to a lack of sidewalks and/or bike paths, construction, etc.

Below you'll find FAQs that provide additional details about this update.

## **Why is the district making this change now?**

A recent analysis revealed inconsistent enforcement of the Board transportation policy adopted in 2006. This update ensures we are abiding by Board policy across the district.

## **How many students will be impacted by this change?**

For the FY20 school year, 317 students are impacted.

## **Is it uncommon for students to walk to school in the Olentangy district?**

We currently have hundreds of students in the district who walk to school, so it is not uncommon. Communities across the district have abided by the Board policy for years.

## **Is it safe for young children to walk to school?**

All impacted communities have sidewalks and bike paths that lead to their schools. We encourage parents to use their own discretion as to whether or not their student should be escorted to school by an older child or an adult. Communities across the district have abided by the Board policy for years without incident.

## **What if there is inclement weather/icy sidewalks?**

In the event of inclement weather, the district will continue to follow its longstanding inclement weather policy. School-owned walkways and parking lots will be cleared of snow and de-iced. Neighborhood residents are responsible for clearing community sidewalks.

## **Didn't we just pass a levy? Why do we need to make budget cuts?**

This update is not a result of a budget cut. It is to consistently apply Board policy across the Olentangy community.

## **How does our busing policy compare with comparable districts in our area?**

Olentangy busing policies are consistent with comparable districts in our area.