



# WILTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## Transportation Information

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

We look forward to the start of the 2020-2021 school year, and we are pleased to offer transportation to those families who plan to have their children ride the bus to school. In order to ensure a smooth start to the year, we are writing to provide some important information about changes to our school bus protocols. For your convenience, these protocols are listed in bulleted form.

- All students are entitled to ride the school bus. While we encourage families to consider driving their children to school to keep group size on the buses small, we are happy to provide transportation to students who need it. If your child's ridership changes at any point in the year, please contact Transportation Liaison Fran Williams at [williamsf@wiltonps.org](mailto:williamsf@wiltonps.org). Families who initially drive their children to school but later request to have their children ride the bus may be asked to wait up to one week to make this adjustment. Emergency situations will be prioritized, and we will do our best to make changes as quickly as possible.
- All buses will run according to their normal routes. Bus assignments will be viewable in each family's PowerSchool account on August 19, 2020 for Miller-Driscoll and Cider Mill families and August 24, 2020 for Middlebrook and Wilton High School families.
- Parent volunteers will not be allowed on buses at this time.
- Weather permitting, windows will be left open to increase the circulation of air.
- Drivers will be wearing masks and will follow self-monitoring protocols consistent with CDC guidelines.
- Drivers will be cleaning buses thoroughly each day as follows:
  - Between routes, all high-touch surfaces will be cleaned.
  - After AM and PM runs, high-touch, hard surfaces, and seats will be cleaned.
- Students will be required to wear masks on the bus. Students should bring their own masks from home, but if they forget a mask, one will be made available by the bus driver. Students who refuse to wear masks will not be permitted on the bus.
- Students will enter the bus and load from the rear to the front of the bus. Students will disembark from the front of the bus to the rear. Seats will be assigned by the drivers; students will be expected to remain in their assigned seats.
- As always, students are expected to adhere to safety protocols for bus riders (i.e. sitting in assigned seats, wearing seatbelts, keeping masks on, treating others with respect).

Students who exhibit unsafe behavior, particularly in light of our new health and safety protocols, may be subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the bus.

- Students will be allowed to ride their assigned buses. Students from shared households will be assigned to two buses and will be allowed to ride either bus.
- Students may NOT ride buses to play dates or the homes of other children.
- To start the school year, students will not be allowed to ride an alternate bus to a special activity after school with the exception of buses that transport to childcare facilities and religious organizations holding religious education. (For example, students WILL be allowed to ride to Comstock, the YMCA childcare program, Bright Horizons, and Create Learning. Students will NOT be allowed to ride the bus to the YMCA gymnastics program.) This model will be revisited after several weeks to determine whether transportation to other activities can be phased in.
- Buses will run on August 26 and 28 for students attending school according to their cohort day half-day schedules. Please note, students will attend school on EITHER August 26 or August 28, not both days. For more information about your child's assigned day, please reference materials sent by your child's school.
- The first official day of school is August 31. Students will ride their assigned buses according to their assigned cohort days (Monday-Tuesday or Thursday-Friday).

We appreciate your support of these new protocols and your understanding that the fluidity of our current situation will require flexibility. As we progress through the school year, we will update you on changes to our protocols. Your feedback and suggestions are welcome. If you have recommendations to share, please contact Fran Williams at [williamsf@wiltonps.org](mailto:williamsf@wiltonps.org). We look forward to a smooth start to the year and a safe transportation experience for our riders.

Best regards,

*Maria Coleman*

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Director of Human Resources and General Administration

*Fran Williams*

***Fran Williams***

Transportation Liaison