

Transportation FAQ for Parents

February 1, 2021

Q1. When will temperature checks be given?

A1. Parents must evaluate students for symptoms of illness and take students temperature PRIOR to sending them to the bus stop. If their student is sick, the parent would need to keep them home from school. Attestation forms will be collected, and temperature checks will be completed once students arrive at the school. Please be sure that you send your attestation form with your student each day.

Q2. How many students will be allowed per bus?

A2. We are following all guidance from department of health and OSPI regarding health and safety measures needed for transportation. This includes mask wearing, ventilation, regular cleaning and keeping the first row of seats empty. There is not a recommended capacity limit, however, we anticipate reduced ridership. The number of students riding each bus will depend on who is returning to in person learning, and who has elected to ride the bus. Routes were developed based on the K-5 survey data and what families indicated they would be riding the bus. We know that not all families who are eligible will be riding. Actual ridership numbers will depend on school and route.

Q3. What is the expectation for students on the bus?

A3. Below is the list of expectations for students on the bus. This is also shown on our [transportation website](#) and will also be communicated with parents when routes are sent.

- Students will wear mask and maintain physical distance while waiting at the bus stop.
- Masks are required while on the bus
- All windows at the front and rear of the bus and all roof hatches will be open to maintain proper ventilation and to create a circulation of air flow – students should dress appropriately for the bus ride
- In the morning, at the bus stop – students will load and fill the seats from back of the bus to the front of the bus.
- Students should sit one student per seat as much as possible to maximize physical distancing. If students need to share seats, they should always remain seated and facing forward.
- Siblings/household members should always sit together in the same seat.
- At the school, the driver will remind students to remain seated. Students will exit the bus from front to back.
- In the afternoon going home – students will load the bus from back to front based on bus stop- last bus stop in the back, first bus stop in the front.
- Students should maintain physical distancing when entering and leaving the bus.
- Eating and Drinking on the bus is not permissible

Q4. Will buses have seating charts for students?

A4. Students will not be assigned to specific seats at this time; however, students will be expected to load from the back of the bus to the front. Siblings will be required to sit together in the same seat.

Q5. When will I received the information about my child's bus stop and pick up/drop off time?

A5. For those families who are eligible for transportation and indicated in the K-5 survey that they would be riding the bus, transportation will send families a school messenger by February 16 to communicate bus stops and pick up time/drop off time. For those who rode the bus in prior years, you may notice that the pick-up times are earlier. This is due to the reduced number of students riding the bus. We expect at the beginning there will only be one bus per elementary school (no buses for all walking schools) thus the buses will be driving a larger area to pick up students. As we bring more students back to school for in-person learning, buses may be added if there are available drivers.

Q6. What if I filled out the survey indicating my child was not riding the bus and now my child would like to ride the bus.

A6. If you wish to be added to the route, please email busroutes@lwsd.org with your name, your child's name, grade, and address. Transportation staff will verify that your address is in the eligible riding zone and they will respond with next steps.

Q7. Can my child ride home with a friend on another bus?

A7. No students will not be allowed to ride home with friends that are on a different bus route. Only in an emergency would a child be allowed to ride another bus.