



**ROCHAMBEAU**  
THE FRENCH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## **TRANSPORTATION GUIDE**

**2021-2022**

9600 Forest Road  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Tel Direct: Manager (301) 798-4813

Assistant manager: (301)791-5594

Tel: (301) 530-8260 ext. 264, 241

Fax : (301) 564-5779

Email: [rochambus@rochambeau.org](mailto:rochambus@rochambeau.org)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Transportation Department tries to accommodate every family's request when offering stop locations but doesn't necessarily offer a "door to door" service.

Bus stop location choices are dictated primarily by safety concerns for the students when getting on and off the bus which means factoring street sizes, sidewalks, traffic, number and age of the students, and duration of the route.

The school may change any bus route or bus stop at any time and will provide advance notice to families..

To help ensure the implementation of all COVID-19 related health and safety protocols, each bus in 2021-2022 will be assigned a bus monitor for all bus and shuttle rides. COVID-19 protocols will be assessed throughout the school year and adaptations made in accordance with guidance from county, state and federal health mandates.

Audio and Video surveillance as well as GPS Tracking devices are used on the buses.

It is strictly prohibited to use a school bus without prior information to the Transportation Department either by

- Enrolling in the Yearly Transportation Service
- Emailing the Department at [rochambus@rochambeau.org](mailto:rochambus@rochambeau.org)

**Students must respect all Transportation Rules to be permitted to ride the bus.**

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **June 15, 2021:** Deadline for application requests for transportation allowing bus ridership as of the first day of school, August 30, 2021. Applications received after June 15 will be honored based on remaining availability and will allow bus riding only as of September 13, 2021.
- **July 1, 2021:** First email for bus lines and stop locations sent to families.
- **August 20, 2021:** Second and final email confirmations sent to families.
- **August 30, 2021:** First day of school.
- **September 13, 2021:** First bus day for students whose families requested Transportation service after June 15, 2021.
- **September 30, 2021:** Deadline to submit a written cancellation of Transportation service (to [rochambus@rochambeau.org](mailto:rochambus@rochambeau.org)). All transportation fees will be refunded except for a \$200 fee per child.
- **October 1, 2021:** As of this date, transportation fees for cancellation of service will be charged.

# TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Every school day, we operate **two types of service**:

1. **BUS:** To and from school
2. **SHUTTLE:** Between our campuses (and the Bethesda Country Day School and the YMCA).

## **BUS SERVICE:**

- **MORNING:** From the student's designated bus stop to school
- **RETURN:**
  - **AFTERNOON:** Departure from the Forest Road campus at 3:40pm
  - **EVENING:** Departure from the Forest Road campus at 5:40pm
  - Students use the afternoon or the evening departure based on their schedules.

## **SHUTTLE SERVICE:**

There are two types of shuttles:

- Shuttles organized strictly for inter campuses transportation, and
- Bus lines which happen to stop at campuses.

Schedules and Route information are available on the parent portal [transportation page](#).

- ★ **Neither buses nor shuttles wait at their stops.**
- ★ **We recommend that students and adults are at the bus stop 5 minutes early.**
- ★ **If the required adult is not at the stop in the afternoon or in the evening when the bus arrives at its bus stop, for safety reasons, the student will stay in the bus and be driven back to the Forest Road campus for pick-up by the family.**

## 2021-2022 TRANSPORTATION FEES

Transportation fees are established based on the distance (by car) between the Forest Road campus and the student's address listed in the Application for Transportation for morning pick-up.

The Transportation department assesses the distance and determines the zone applicable for pricing.

<b>ALLER/RETOUR OU ALLER SIMPLE</b> <i>Round Trip or Morning Only</i>		<b>1er enfant</b> <i>1st child</i>	<b>2ème enfant</b> <i>2nd child</i>	<b>3ème enfant</b> <i>3rd child</i>	<b>4ème enfant</b> <i>4th child</i>
ZONE 1	Résidence < 1 mile de FRD	\$2,065	\$1,650	\$1,320	Free
ZONE 2	1 mile < Résidence < 3 miles	\$2,190	\$1,745	\$1,400	Free
ZONE 3	3 miles < Résidence < 5 miles	\$2,290	\$1,830	\$1,465	Free
ZONE 4	Résidence > 5 miles	\$2,475	\$1,965	\$1,570	Free
ZONE 5	Résidence > 7 miles	\$2,565	\$2,035	\$1,630	Free

<b>RETOUR UNIQUEMENT</b> <i>Return Only</i>		<b>1er enfant</b> <i>1st child</i>	<b>2ème enfant</b> <i>2nd child</i>	<b>3ème enfant</b> <i>3rd child</i>	<b>4ème enfant</b> <i>4th child</i>
ZONE 1	Résidence < 1 mile de FRD	\$1,445	\$1,155	\$925	Free
ZONE 2	1 mile < Résidence < 3 miles	\$1,530	\$1,220	\$975	Free
ZONE 3	3 miles < Résidence < 5 miles	\$1,600	\$1,285	\$1,025	Free
ZONE 4	Résidence > 5 miles	\$1,735	\$1,390	\$1,105	Free
ZONE 5	Résidence > 7 miles	\$1,800	\$1,435	\$1,150	Free

<b>NAVETTE (y compris vers Bethesda Country Day School)</b> <b>SHUTTLE (including to the Bethesda Country Day School)</b>	<b>\$1,160</b>
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*Updated April 27, 2021*

Fixed price for all routes regardless of usage

# EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION

## **Family Emergency**

If a family member has a last minute emergency preventing them from being at the stop when the bus arrives, they must call Transportation to make proper arrangements at **(301) 798-4813** or (301) 530 8260 x 264 or x 241 or the child will be brought back to the Forest Road campus.

If a family needs to change their child's bus arrangements at the last minute, they must call Transportation: **Manager (301) 798-4813, Assistant Manager (301 791 5594)** or (301) 530 8260 x 264 or x 241

## **School Emergency : 2 hour delay, School closed, Early dismissal**

- For weather related issues, the school usually follows Montgomery County Public Schools decisions
- Families are contacted via **email and/or text**
- The school posts information on its website [www.rochambeau.org](http://www.rochambeau.org)

## **Bus time changes follow exactly the Lycée schedule**

- If Clubs Rochambeau are canceled, the evening 5:40pm departure is canceled and all the students take the afternoon buses departing at 3:40pm from Forest Road.
- If BCDS and/or YMCA close, they are responsible for notifying families of any change due to inclement weather for their after school services. The school will keep the children at the Bradley Campus and the Rollingwood Campus until families notify us of their decision to pick up or use the shuttle to be dropped off at another campus.

*\*Families may receive the Montgomery County Public Schools alerts by enrolling directly on their website on the «Montgomery County Public Schools Support and Resources for Parents » page:*

*<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/parents/support/>*

*<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/alertmcps.aspx>*

## **Early dismissal**

*If the school closes early, announcements are made by 11:00am*

*Schools may close 2.5 hours early, and all operations affecting dismissal of students, including Transportation, will be activated 2.5 hours earlier from your regular drop off time.*

## **Transportation Emergency**

If a bus is delayed due to traffic or a mechanical problem:

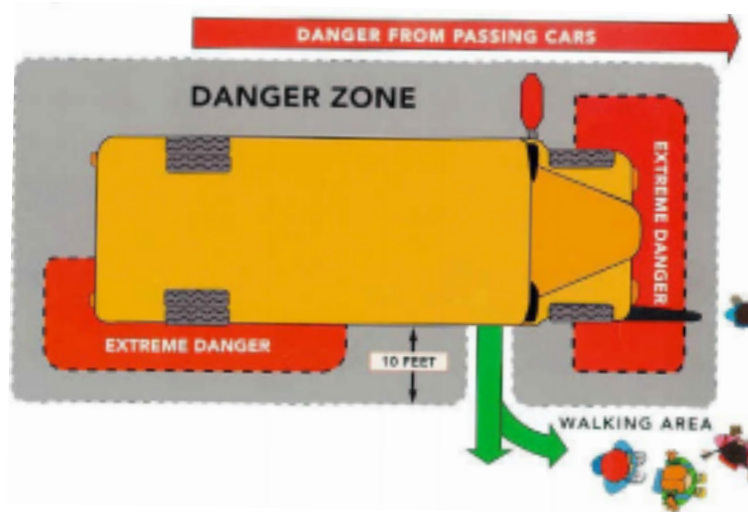
- Transportation alerts the bus families via email and/or text with information we have at that time. A follow up message will be sent once the issue has been resolved and service has been restored.
- Families may call Transportation for information: (301) 530-8260 ext. 264 or ext. 241

## **Student Medical Emergency**

If a student's medical condition requires special attention while traveling on the bus, families must inform the School nurse who will then communicate to the Transportation Department the appropriate action plan. If a medical emergency arises while the student is on board, students will receive emergency care and families will be notified promptly.

# ADVICE TO FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

The **danger zone** is defined as those areas 10 feet in front of, behind and on both sides of the school bus. They are deemed dangerous because they are hidden from the drivers' direct view.



If an adult has a last minute emergency preventing them from being at the stop when the bus arrives, they must call Transportation to make proper arrangements at **(301) 896-0329** or (301) 530 8260 x 241 or x 264 or the child will be brought back to the Forest Road campus.



- ❖ Choose clothing with buttons, zippers, velcro, etc. over clothing with ribbons or ties as they may be caught in doors or seats.
- ❖ Choose hoods over hats.
- ❖ Choose shoes with velcro versus laced shoes.
- ❖ Avoid backpacks with wheels as they are very heavy even empty.
- ❖ Place lunch boxes inside the backpacks or attach them to the backpacks as children need their 2 hands to get on and off the bus!

# **"DON'T LOSE YOUR RIDING PRIVILEGE!"**

## **FOLLOW THESE RULES**

1. Observe same conduct as in the classroom.
2. Be courteous, use no profane language.
3. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
4. Keep the bus clean.
5. Cooperate with the driver.
6. Do not smoke.
7. Do not be destructive.
8. Stay in your seat.
9. Keep head, hands and feet inside the bus.
10. Bus driver is authorized to assign seats.

# TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT RULES & REGULATION

The Following Safety rules & regulations are to ensure the safety of your child.

*Any violations of the rules may result in suspension of bus service privileges.*

*There are video cameras on the bus. All your actions and sound will be recorded.*

## Guidelines for bus stops

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- Wait for the Red lights and stop arm to be on before you walk toward the bus.
- Before crossing the street, wait for a signal from the bus driver, and be sure that all cars are stopped.
- Before boarding the bus, students must keep a safe distance from one another. No pushing one another.
- If an object rolls under the bus, DO NOT go under the bus to pick it up. Inform the driver of the problem.

## Getting on and off the bus

1. Stand on the sidewalk. Do not run between the buses
2. Do not push or engage in horseplay.
3. Find a seat immediately. Put your bag under the seat.
4. Do not get off the bus without permission from the bus driver
5. Remember to take your bookbag and lunch box when you leave the bus. Do not throw your trash on the floor.

## On the bus

1. Remain in your seat. Do not change seats when the bus is moving.
2. Behave on the bus just like you do in the classroom.
3. Speak quietly. Yelling is not allowed, using foul language is strictly forbidden.
4. No writing on the seats or tearing the seat covers.
5. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
6. Students must listen to the drivers' instructions at all times, and must not distract the driver when he/she is driving

For safety reasons, students must respect the rules and regulations of the Rochambeau Transportation Department.

These rules will be presented and explained at the beginning of the school year in each class by the Transportation Department.

- ★ Bus drivers and supervisors will prepare a written note to families if the rules are not respected. A warning will be sent to the families explaining what rules were not respected and a copy will be sent to the campus Principal.
- ★ After the third warning the student will not be allowed to ride the bus for 3 days.
- ★ After the fifth warning the student will not be permitted to ride the bus for the remainder of the year. No refunds will be given.