

Four-Year-Old Preschool Transportation Information 2023-2024

- Parents/guardians are welcome to transport their child to any of the preschool sites in place of busing.
- The residence or childcare address must be in the attendance area of the preschool site to be eligible for bus transportation. To determine eligibility to receive bus transportation to the preschool site from either your residence or childcare, please visit: https://app.guidek12.com/rosemountmn/school_search/current/
- There is no busing for any classes at the Dakota Valley Learning Center. Parents/guardians must provide transportation to and from preschool at this location.
- Not eligible for busing to Magnet schools.
- Families that are not eligible for busing must provide transportation to and from preschool.

An older sibling in grade K-5 whose school indicates they are in a non-busing zone (walkers), have an option to pay a yearly fee to ride the bus with their preschool sibling to the same elementary school. For more Fee-for-Service information please visit: <https://www.district196.org/services/transportation/fee-for-service>

BUS TRANSPORTATION CHANGES:

All bus changes or updates must be done through the Connections Preschool main office. Please contact Jan Prigge at (952) 388-1977 to discuss any changes needed and she will contact the Transportation department. Transportation changes can take 1-2 weeks to take effect.

HERE COMES THE BUS APP

District 196 parents whose children ride the bus to and from preschool each day can track the location of their child's bus using the free smartphone application "*Here Comes The Bus.*"



SETTING UP THE APP

To set up an account for your preschooler, you will need a school identification number and lunch account pin number. Preschoolers that do not have meals at school can contact the Transportation department to get a temporary lunch account pin number (email Transportation@district196.org). Parents will be able to monitor buses for multiple children from a single account. Schools will share setup instructions and school identification numbers with parents. If you did not receive it, ask your child's school.

1. Log into the app with your email address and use the District 196 ID: 73500
2. Add your student's name and student lunch account pin number (or temporary one assigned by the Transportation department).
3. Once login is complete, set up a virtual radius that will alert when the bus is in the area.

Bus Transportation FAQs



ADULT AT BUS STOP:

No preschool child can wait at a bus stop without a parent or known responsible guardian with them, or be dropped off at a bus stop without a known adult meeting them. In the event that no adult/sibling is at the stop for the child, the parent will be contacted via phone and the child may be returned to their school.

BUS AND BUS STOP NOTIFICATION:

Parents receive an EMAIL, showing bus stop locations, bus numbers, pick-up and drop-off times and start date.

BUS CHAPERONES:

Bus going home from AM preschool or coming to PM preschool will have bus chaperones on each bus, if there are routinely 10 or more children assigned to each specific bus route.

UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS IS CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO ADJUSTING BUS STOP LOCATIONS?

Roads and streets sometimes intersect on areas of road that cause concern for school bus transportation and the motoring public. We make every effort to select safe places to load and unload students given the varying factors of roads, streets, traffic speed and locations of residences. Adjustments to bus stops may be made when we believe a safer alternative is available. See school board policy Administrative Regulation 707.2AR, School Bus Safety

WE LIVE ON A CUL-DE-SAC. WILL THE BUS COME DOWN OUR STREET?

Except to transport special education students, buses generally are not routed down cul-de-sacs because of the danger to small children and property caused by the bus turning around and/or backing up in a small area. However, elementary school buses are routed down cul-de-sacs that are one mile long or longer, and middle school and high school buses are routed down cul-de-sacs that are one and one-half mile or longer.

I CANNOT SEE THE BUS STOP FROM MY HOUSE.

The school district provides transportation for over 22,000 students to and from school each day. We are not able to position bus stops so that all parents are able to see the stop from their home.

I OWN A DAYCARE AND NEED THE STOP AT MY HOUSE BECAUSE THE STATE REQUIRES ME TO SEE THE STUDENTS AT ALL TIMES. WHY CAN'T THE BUS STOP BE LOCATED AT MY HOUSE?

Bus stops are centrally located and at intersections. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the daycare provider to get the students to the bus stop.

I HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN AT HOME AND/OR I LEAVE HOME BECAUSE OF WORK.

In order to be consistent and fair in placement of bus stops, the school district is not able to establish stops based on personal circumstances.

WILL MY PRESCHOOLER SIT IN THE FRONT SEATS?

Yes, bus drivers encourage preschoolers being in the front seats of buses.

SEATBELTS/CAR SEATS:

The State of Minnesota does not mandate seat belts or car seats on school buses.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD HAVE A SUCCESSFUL BUS RIDE TO/FROM SCHOOL?**– Please have your child at the bus stop 5 minutes prior to the scheduled pick-up time.**

- Monitor children from damaging the property of others at the bus stop.
- Be aware the bus will pick up and drop off students at the same stop every day school is in session.
- Help your children learn their bus numbers and review the bus safety rules.
- Bus pick-up and drop-off times are based on favorable weather and road conditions. Traffic congestion, road construction, inclement weather and population changes may cause minor adjustments in pick-up and drop-off times. Parents will be notified of any major changes in bus schedules that affect their child.

For additional information go to: <https://www.district196.org/services/transportation/transportation-faqs>