

## 2024 – 2025 School Year

Dear Non-Public School Parent:

We would like to take this opportunity to communicate the procedures that Pennridge School District Transportation follows regarding transportation of non-public school students.

### *Kindergarten Transportation*

We will ONLY provide busing one-way for kindergarten students. The middle of the day busing is the responsibility of the parent. **If a student attends an ALL-DAY kindergarten program, we will only bus the child one-way, there will be NO exceptions. Please indicate on the Act 372 form whether you would like AM or PM transportation. If the preference is not clear or not indicated, PM transportation will be the default.**

### **\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

**The Act 372 form is only required for students who need busing. If your family requests transportation at the start of the year, please complete and return this form no later than June 28, 2024. Transportation can be requested at any time during the school year. Transportation will be provided within 3 – 5 days of your request. We ask that you only request transportation if transportation is truly needed in order to keep ride times reasonable for our students.**

**If a student does not ride for 2 consecutive weeks, he/she will be removed from the run.** The students transportation may only be reinstated if it will be consistently used, and we're notified in writing via email at [transport@pennridge.org](mailto:transport@pennridge.org) . If transportation needs to be reinstated, 3 - 5 days will be needed to make necessary changes to the current route. This includes notifying the driver of the change, parents if necessary, what the new bus stop times will be and then implementation of the run.

The following guidelines are used in selecting bus stops:

1. Bus stops will not be assigned closer than three hundred (300) feet apart.
2. Bus stops are not assigned in cul-de-sacs, small residential circles or loops, dead-end streets or other similar areas.
3. Bus stops will be standardized for both public and private schools using the same bus stop for both whenever possible.
4. Additional information can be found on the Pennridge School District website: [www.pennridge.org](http://www.pennridge.org).

Total time for students from home to school or school to home will be limited as much as possible to one (1) hour within the district boundaries. For students attending schools outside of the district, the riding time limit is extended past the one (1) hour limit according to the driving time needed to get to/from the school from the district boundary.

*Below are the national holidays the Pennridge School District is closed. Busing will not be provided.*

*National Holidays for current school year are:*

<i>July 4</i>	<i>Independence Day</i>
<i>September 2</i>	<i>Labor Day</i>
<i>November 28</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Day</i>
<i>January 1</i>	<i>New Year's Day (observed)</i>
<i>January 20</i>	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>
<i>February 17</i>	<i>President's Day</i>
<i>May 26</i>	<i>Memorial Day</i>

*Below are additional holidays that Pennridge School District will be closed. According to Section 1361 of the Public-School Code, states that variances between public and non-public calendars should be reduced by school officials to a reasonable minimum. We encourage all non-public school officials to coordinate their days off in conjunction with our districts calendar.*

*Additional Holidays with no busing are:*

<i>November 29</i>	<i>Black Friday</i>
<i>December 23 - 31</i>	<i>Christmas Break</i>
<i>April 18</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>

Students residing outside the Pennridge School District **will not be permitted** on Pennridge School District buses due to insurance regulations. This means non-residential students cannot ride Pennridge School District buses, for play dates, projects, etc.

If you have any comments or concerns and need to contact the Pennridge School District Transportation Department the number is (215) 453-2725 or you can email us at [transport@pennridge.org](mailto:transport@pennridge.org)

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and wish you a good school year.

Sincerely,

Pennridge Transportation Department

Pennridge SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Transportation Department  
1506 N. Fifth Street  
Perkasie, PA 18944  
Tel: (215) 453-2725 Fax: (215) 257-4574

**SAFETY RULES FOR SCHOOL BUSES**

**Two General Rules**

- Always follow the directions of the bus driver.
- Be courteous to all passengers.

**Waiting for the Bus**

- Help the buses run on time. Be at your stop ten (10) minutes early.
- **If a student misses the bus, the bus will be unable to return for the safety of the students on the bus and the schedule of the route.**
- Be considerate of private property.
- Stay off the road while waiting for your bus.
- No ball or game playing at the bus stop.
- Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before trying to get aboard. Do not push or crowd when getting on the bus.
- If you are late, never run after a moving bus.
- Parents are responsible for children at bus stops. **It is strongly recommended that parents be at the bus stop in the morning and afternoon for elementary age students, especially for the lower grade students.**
- **No chasing the bus with a car, etc. to have children board at another stop.**

**Riding the Bus**

- Keep your hands and head inside the bus at all times.
- Help keep the bus clean. Don't throw trash on the floor or out the windows.
- Loud talking, laughing, and yelling can be distracting to the driver. Speak at a moderate level and do not cause disturbances on the bus.
- Live animals, glass containers, firearms, explosives, weapons of any kind or any other dangerous or objectionable items may not be taken on the bus.
- Keep objects out of the aisle. Gym bags, sports equipment, instruments, or school projects must be held on your lap or they will not be allowed on the bus.
- Inflated balloons are not permitted on the school bus/van.
- Sit in your assigned seat if you are assigned one.
- Find a seat as soon as you board the bus. Do not leave your seat while the bus is moving.
- Share your seat with others. If the bus is filled, ride three to a seat.
- Absolute quiet is required when the bus approaches and crosses a railroad crossing.
- *No smoking, vaping, or tobacco products*, lighted matches, or open flame is permitted in the bus.
- The student will have to pay for the repair of any damage they may cause to the bus.
- No eating or drinking is allowed on the bus.

**Leaving the Bus**

- Always cross the street in front of the bus where the driver can see you.
- Stay a safe distance away from the side of the bus.
- Passengers may only exit the bus at their assigned stop or with a valid bus pass from their assigned school. To obtain a bus pass parental contact must be made with the school office and the school will issue a bus pass.

**REMEMBER**

**Riding the bus is a privilege.** These rules help insure safe bus transportation for students and bus drivers. Students who violate these safety regulations may be excluded from riding the bus. Parents are responsible for transporting their child to and from school if the child has been excluded from bus transportation.

Revised 8/18/22



## PENNBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

1506 N. Fifth Street

Perkasie, PA 18944

Telephone 215-453-2725 • Fax 215-257-4574

Jessica Krause

Director of Transportation

TO: All Parents/Guardians  
FROM: PSD Transportation Service  
SUBJECT: Alternate Bus Assignments Restricted by Purpose and Seat Availability  
DATE: June 2024

The Pennridge Transportation Department's #1 priority is to provide students with safe transportation services. All Pennridge students that are eligible for transportation to and from their schools have been ***assigned to particular school buses***. All bus runs have been established with current eligible student data. This enables our department to assign students to school buses within the buses' legal capacity limits. Some bus runs, due to the number of students located in the neighborhood can be filled to the maximum safe capacity and there is no room for added students. This department notifies the school when a bus is filled to capacity and student bus passes cannot be issued for that particular bus.

***All students are expected to ride the buses to which they have been assigned with limited exceptions.*** Written parental requests for occasional, short-term bus exceptions are to be directed to the principal, who in turn will evaluate the requests and, if approved, issue day passes. Parents who desire a long-term exception to bus assignments for the specific purposes of childcare or after school employment within a student's attendance area shall complete an Alternate Transportation Request Form. This form can be downloaded from the Pennridge School District Transportation website.

***The approval of short or long-term alternate bus pass is subject to space availability to protect the safety and welfare of the students.***

***Bus passes will be issued ONLY in certain specific circumstances or emergency situations.***

***Bus passes are not for play dates, scouts, non-routine student employment or any other activity.***

***New bus stops may be created for Alternate requests but we will not re-route or move an established bus stop to accommodate this request. When considering your alternate request, the District must deem it a SAFE stop before we consider your request***

This type of transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. All Alternate Transportation requests must be submitted ***every year***.

The Pennridge Transportation Department takes pride in the professional manner in which it provides safe transportation for all eligible students who reside in the district. Our service limitations are designed to protect our students and ensure that we are taking all steps possible to do so.

Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated.



## PENNRRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

1506 N. Fifth Street • Perkasie, Pennsylvania 18944

Telephone: 215-453-2725 • Fax: 215-257-4574

**TO:** All Parents

**SUBJECT:** Transporting Large Items & Musical Equipment

Dear Parents,

Students from time to time may have extra items/equipment to bring to and from school. ***Some examples are gym bags, musical instruments, and special projects.*** In order to transport all students on the bus safely, the Pennridge Student Transportation Policy states that these items are permitted on the bus ***only if "they can be held on the student's lap without endangering the safety of other students".***

### General Large Equipment

Bus drivers will determine if an item does not meet the safety measures of the policy. Students will receive a warning on the first occasion of boarding the bus with an item that is too large. If there is a reoccurrence with the same student, the student will not be permitted to board the bus with the too large item. *Please know that under no circumstances will a student be left stranded at a bus stop.* In every case, drivers will follow the protocol and make the necessary communications to get all students to school safely.

### Musical Instruments

\*The following instruments are considered too large to be transported on the bus:

Baritone Saxophone  
Baritone Horn  
Cello

Drums  
Electric Bass  
Guitar

String Bass  
Tuba  
Amplifier System

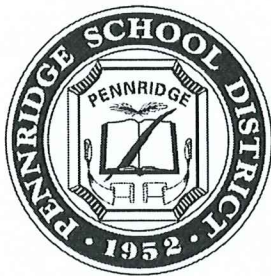
*\*Please contact your child's music teacher if you need assistance with solutions for getting any of the above instruments to school for your child.*

On days that a student boards the bus with an approved large item, they may be instructed to sit in the first few rows of seats, if available. This will allow other students to load and unload the bus safely and efficiently.

Remember, room is limited on all buses and seats must be available for all students assigned to the bus. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to ensure our students travel safely on the bus. If you have any questions, please contact the Transportation Department at the phone number listed above. Best wishes for a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Pennridge School District Transportation Department



## PENNRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

1506 N. Fifth Street

Perkasie, Pennsylvania 18944

Telephone: 215-453-2725 • Fax: 215-257-4574

Jessica Krause

Director of Transportation

**Weather related busing information as well as days busing will not be provided due to holidays.**

1. The Pennridge School District's emergency closing number is 757. You can also turn to Channel 69 News to review the status of the school district.
2. Students may be picked up by Pennridge School District as early as 12:00 for early dismissals due to weather conditions.
3. If the Pennridge School District is on a 2-hour delay, all public/nonpublic transportation is on the same delay. If the school district deems weather conditions a safety issue during the school day, non-public schools will be notified to release their students for early transportation home.

### WEATHER MATRIX

Pennridge Schedule	Other Schools Schedule	Transportation Service
Closed	Open	None
Delayed Start	Regular	Delayed Start
Early Dismissal	Regular	Early Dismissal
*****Regular Times	Delayed Start	None
Regular Times	Early Dismissal	Transportation will advise

**WHEN THE PENNRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT IS CLOSED DUE TO WEATHER, TRANSPORTATION WILL NOT BE PROVIDED TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**