

August, 2015

## **What you need to know about School Transportation**

The week of May 11th a yellow transportation request card was sent home with all students currently transported by Durham School Services.

### **A yellow transportation request card must be filled out if any of the following apply:**

- If there has been a change to your address, phone, or school July 2014 to now.
- If you plan to move over the summer.
- If there is a change in child custody.
- If you are new to the Davenport Schools.
- If you are a kindergartener not living in the walk zone.
- If you are a bus eligible 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grader.

Durham School Services will begin routing student(s) for the 2015-16 school year as soon as the request card is returned. The more routes we establish with accurate data today are routes that will not need to be created in the weeks leading up to the start of school. Returning the yellow card with any changes NOW will insure your child has bus transportation on the first day of school. We requested the cards be returned by May 25<sup>th</sup>, if you have not returned your request card with changes please do so immediately.

### **Durham has established a black out period from August 3rd to September 18<sup>th</sup>.**

During the blackout period:

- No route changes will be made during that time. Any additional students added to a route during that time must go to existing stops.
- After September 18th, routes will be re-evaluated and adjusted if needed.

### **Do NOT fill a transportation request card out if:**

- There has been no change to your address, phone, or school from July 2014 to now.
- You do not plan to move over the summer.
- There has not been a change in child custody.
- If you are a high school student that has their own mode of transportation.

The Districts routing software will automatically route students using the same information you supplied in 2014-15 so we only need a request card filled out if you have a change in information as listed above.

### **To check eligibility for District Provided Transportation or to locate your attendance site:**

The District invested in a mapping tool that anyone with internet service has access to.

- Using GIS information from the City of Davenport and Scott County, we have been able to plot walk zones in comparison to your address with accuracy of 12 inches.
- As defined by DCSD Board, the distance for walk zone is measured from the roadway opposite the entrance to the private residence to the roadway opposite the entrance to the

school. We used your property boundary nearest the school for this purpose. You will be able to see at a glance if your student lives within the walk zone or qualifies for free transportation.

- Board policy defines students receiving free transportation as follows: elementary students living more than 1.5 mile, intermediate students living more than 2 miles and high school living more than 3 miles.
- Also per board policy, students may be required to meet a school bus on an approved route not to exceed three-fourths of a mile from their residence.
- We will address safety busing on an individual basis; Board policy limits safety busing to elementary students. Exceptions would be limited to rural areas for intermediate/high school and major streets for elementary.

Walk zone information is available on the district web site. A quick link has been placed on the District website for you to utilize. Google Chrome is the preferred search engine. The address is [https://www.excensus-guidek12.net/gk12/davenport/district\\_view/](https://www.excensus-guidek12.net/gk12/davenport/district_view/) or you can click on the “Find your School and Transportation Eligibility” icon.

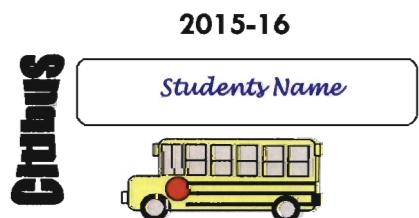


### Alternative to District Transportation:

The City of Davenport and the Davenport Schools has offered free busing on Citibus for all Davenport students. The district is splitting the cost of this service with the City of Davenport. There are stops near almost all schools. Students would not be limited to school days. Intermediate and High School riders must use existing Citibus stops and show a valid Davenport Schools ID with the approved City of Davenport sticker to be provided service. If you plan to ride the Citibus using the free pass, you must fill out the blue Citibus request card. The card must include a parent’s signature. Upon return of the blue request card to your school office, a sticker will be attached to intermediate and high school student ID’s. Elementary students will receive a small blue bus pass allowing them access to ride the Citibus.

- Only students with a parent approved Citibus card on file at the school will be issued a sticker (high school/intermediate) or blue bus card (elementary).
- Citibus request cards will be kept on file at the school.
- Stickers will be affixed to the student ID if you are a high school or intermediate student.
- Elementary students will be issued a blue Citibus card.
- All transportation rules apply to both Citibus and Durham riders.
- Citibus questions should be directed to the Operations Center 563-386-3351.

Example of elementary Citibus card



Example of intermediate/high Citibus sticker

