



School District of Onalaska

237 2nd Avenue South, Onalaska WI 54650
608.781.9700 www.onalaskaschools.com

July 22, 2024

Dear School District of Onalaska Family:

We will continue to require pre-registration for all school busing to establish eligibility for ridership in 2024-25.

- All children riding School District of Onalaska buses are required to have a Bus Agreement on file every year.** This form is on the District website (go to onalaskaschools.com and click on the small school bus icon at the top of the screen). This Agreement is required to qualify for ridership, and must be updated if there are changes to your child's transportation needs throughout the school year. This Agreement will begin the process of determining eligibility for busing. Once you fill out the Bus Agreement you'll get an email back confirming the submission. *Please contact the Transportation office if you cannot complete the Bus Agreement online.*
- Eligibility.** All forms will be reviewed for ridership eligibility; you will be notified before the start of school if your child is eligible to ride, with route numbers and times. **Please review the eligibility guidelines for Open Enrolled, and Boundary Waived students, and students living less than two miles from their school as this is the criteria we use for bus ridership.** This information can be found on the Transportation page of the District website.
- Deadline.** The deadline for Bus Agreements is **July 30, 2024**. Any Agreements received after August 1, 2024 will delay routing. We cannot guarantee route notifications *before school* for parents who do not register by August 10. The exceptions to this are pending additional enrollments and address changes.
- Bus Badges.** All students are required to "swipe" onto the bus for every ride. If your child(ren) have their bus badges from last year please use them.
 - Students are to use their Badge throughout their time in the District; by not printing the school name the Badge can be used as your child(ren) moves from school to school - including summer school.
 - High School students can use their Student ID cards instead of a new Bus Badge. The barcode used on the bus is the same as the barcode on their ID
 - Students with Smart Phones** can access their Bus Badge (barcode) on their phones after installing Here Comes the Bus and registering within the app.
 - We will mail all badges to families at each students' primary residence submitted on the Bus Agreement.** This will be the fastest and most reliable way to make sure that parents are getting the Badge(s) and can review Bus rules along with expectations of Badge use before the school year begins. A lanyard will not be mailed. The Elementary and Middle School offices will have lanyards available if you need one.
- Bus Stop Optimization.** Our goal is to provide safe and efficient travel to and from school. We continue to evaluate the best stops along all routes; please note there may be adjustments to the stops that we used in the past. We cannot change bus stops to accommodate students' extra curricular schedules. Our goal is to make the most efficient use of right-hand bus stops, and provide door-to-door stops for Special Ed and Pre-K students. But stops are allowed within District boundaries with very few exceptions.

Please visit the District's Transportation website periodically for updates, bus rules and procedures, and the Bus Agreement. If you have any concerns or questions please call myself or Shelli Kult at 783-5489.

Sincerely,
Dan Dahlquist
Director Facilities & Transportation

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