

Transportation Coordinator 61 Highland Avenue Whippany, NJ 07981 973.515.2444 ricardo.santiago@htboe.org

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the <u>2024-25</u> school year commencing on <u>Thursday, September 5, 2024</u>. <u>Students should</u> <u>always be standing at their designated bus stop a minimum of 10 minutes prior than scheduled.</u> <u>Bus arrival times can fluctuate earlier and/or later than scheduled depending on traffic, weather,</u> <u>additional students and/or any other reason beyond our control.</u> Late/Sport buses are not routed and can take more time to reach your home for the same specific reasons as stated above.

Kindergarten/Pre-K parents/guardians must meet his/her child at designated bus stops during <u>afternoon return trips from elementary school!</u> Designee forms are available online on our website and/or within your neighborhood school if you require another family member and/or other responsible adult to meet your child at their bus stop. If you and/or your designee are not present at the bus stop to meet your child, we will call your main contact phone number and if no answer, the bus driver will return your child back to his/her school. It will then become your responsibility to pick-up your child from his/her school's main office.

IMPORTANT TRANSPORTATION RULES TO DISCUSS WITH YOUR CHILD:

- 1) Always be ready 10 minutes earlier than scheduled at your designated bus stop.
- 2) Never run toward any bus that is clearly in motion.
- 3) Stand far back from the roadway until your bus has arrived and fully stopped.
- 4) Board the bus in an orderly fashion. Be patient, do not push and/or shove any other student.
- 5) Remain in assigned seat with your seatbelt fastened tightly for your personal safety.
- 6) Do not yell, shout, stand, fight and/or disrupt other students at any time.
- 7) Eating, gum chewing, and/or drinking is prohibited while riding on board the bus.
- 8) Stow away any backpacks, instruments, etc in the 20x10x10 area underneath your seat.
- 9) Keep all emergency door and window exits clear of any body parts and/or personal items.
- 10) Obey the bus driver's instructions at all times while on board and/or exiting the bus.
- 11) Cross 15-20ft in front of the bus and await driver's safe signal before crossing any roadway.
- 12) Never crawl under bus to retrieve any dropped item. Always notify driver of your intentions.

All school rules, including those that pertain to the harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying of any student, will be in effect and strictly enforced while riding the school bus. Ridership may be denied to any student who proves to be a chronic disciplinary problem. Students are reminded that all buses are equipped with seatbelts including video surveillance cameras to enhance passenger and driver safety.

If you should experience a continued problem with your bus route and/or bus stop, please contact the Transportation Department at <u>973-515-2444</u>. Additional information can be found on our website: <u>www.hanovertwpschools.com</u>.