



**LETTER FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OF
TRANSPORTATION
Appling County Schools Soaring to New Heights
2025-2026 School Year**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to another exciting year at Appling County School System! We are dedicated to providing a rich educational foundation for our students through our vision, “Appling County Schools will be a system of excellence for all learners” and our mission, “We are committed to providing a quality education that promotes maximum individual achievement and social responsibility”.

We are proud of our outstanding school system, and we believe there is always room for growth. To continue moving forward, we ask for your continued support through active participation in the Appling County School collaborative partnership. Your involvement plays a vital role in our students’ success. As we prepare for the new school year, please take a moment to review the transportation information listed below with your student. Understanding these guidelines will help ensure safe, efficient, and effective bus service for all students.

We are excited to begin another exceptional year in the Appling County School System!

Sincere Regards,
Charles L. Vann, Sr.
Director of Transportation

BUS RIDERS

Bus Service:

The bus service is available for all students. The routes are not interchangeable, and students must ride the assigned bus at the time designated.

Early/Late Buses:

Morning: No buses will offload at any school before 7:05 am, except for Altamaha Elementary and Fourth District Elementary.

Afternoon: Buses will begin dismissal at 2:25 pm in the afternoon at the Appling County Middle School.

Arrival at School:

Students who arrive by bus before 7:10 am should go directly to the school atrium or cafeteria. Students arriving after 7:45 should go directly to the front office for a pass to their classrooms or get permission to go to the cafeteria if eating breakfast.

Change in Transportation Method:

If your child goes home any way other than what is designated on the enrollment card, a note must be delivered to the front office before 11:00 a.m. Any and all changes must be in writing. We cannot accept phone calls, faxes, emails, or texts. Bus changes will be sent to the office for approval and returned to the teacher. A student must have this note with office approval, to ride a bus for which he/she is not assigned or to get off at a different stop other than their usual bus stop, or their secondary location. No changes will be made after **11:00 a.m.** unless there is an emergency. Once the bus leaves the student's school in the afternoon the student’s parent cannot get that child off the bus at another school. The student must go from school to home and from home to school. This is a safety guideline in order to make sure the student is being released to the correct guardianship.

Students are assigned a primary bus stop and are allowed to designate one secondary bus stop for the year. The secondary bus stop can only be changed ONCE per year, (i.e., a student

cannot be given a note each day to different locations to get off in the afternoon). There must be someone to receive the child at permanent or secondary address if the child is under the age of 13. Students who are 13 or older may supervise their younger siblings for two hours or less per state Guidelines. Students that are under 13 years old must have a parent or guardian or older sibling visible before the driver is able to let the student off at the bus stop. Students under 13 will be returned to their school by the bus driver for parent pickup. This rule will be enforced by the school's administration office along with the transportation department.

Dress Code:

Please refer to the Appling County Code of Conduct for minimum requirements. These following items are not permitted: Roller shoes or Heely's, flip-flops, spaghetti straps, halter tops, or tube tops. All shorts and skirts must be of an appropriate length.

Bus Schedule:

Should you need assistance, please contact the bus shop at 912-367-8609 or 912-367-8600 ext.

149. Your child's safety and security are our top priorities and we want to ensure all students travel to and from school safely each day. To support this, we've provided important safety guidelines for bus stops and bus transportation, along with other school and bus rules. Please take a moment to review these rules together to help us keep all students safe.

Bus Stop Rules:

1. There are designated bus stops so that students can be safely picked up by the bus. Students are not to cross a four-lane highway. The designated stop will be placed at a safe location and located twelve feet off the roadway of a two-lane road or deceleration lane.
2. Students must be at the bus stop 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival time. The bus cannot wait for a student. If the student is not present at the stop and the driver activates their eight-way lights, they will proceed to the next stop and the parent is responsible for getting their child to school. Do not follow the bus to the next stop in order for your child to ride the bus.
3. Students must stay off the road at all times while waiting for the bus.
4. No horseplay at the bus stop.
5. Students should be careful when approaching the bus stop. Do not approach the bus until the driver motions you to do so.
6. Do not move toward the buses at the loading zone until the bus has been brought to a complete stop.
7. On roadways where there are no sidewalks, students should walk single file facing traffic.
8. At the designated bus stop, wait on the side of the road where you live, standing at least 12 feet away from the edge of the roadway. Do not cross the road until the bus has come to a complete stop and the driver signals that it is safe to cross; then proceed to board the bus.

While on the Bus:

1. Obey instructions given by the driver.
2. Please be courteous to fellow students and the bus driver. Annoying the driver or other students will not be tolerated.
3. Horseplay, threats, and fighting are not permitted on or around the bus or at bus stops.
4. Remain silent when approaching all railroad crossings.
5. Talk only in a normal voice and do not use profane or obscene language.
6. Remain properly seated in your assigned seat, do not change seats, and keep head and hands inside the bus.
7. Eating is not allowed on the bus during daily routes. All paper and trash must be put into the trash basket located at the front and rear of the buses.
8. Do not tamper with any of the equipment on the bus, especially the emergency door or windows, for any reason.

9. Do not litter on the bus or throw objects inside or outside the bus.
10. Do not leave the bus except at your regular stop without written permission from the administration.
11. Students are not allowed to bring any balloons, flowers w/vases, glass, large projects, poster boards, large band instruments, flags or flag poles, baseball bats or golf clubs on the bus.
12. Books, packages, coats, band instruments, and other items should not be in the aisles or in the driver's compartment and should not be left on the bus. These items must be held in the child's lap and must not occupy the seat of another child.
13. Students are not allowed to transport prescription or non-prescription medications on the bus, except emergency medications and approved medications prescribed for self-administration.
14. Students are allowed to use cell phones or other personal electronic devices on the school bus. Taking pictures or videos of others on the bus will result in an **automatic loss of cell phone privileges**. If the cell phone/personal device is causing a distraction to the driver or others, the student will forfeit their opportunity to use the device while on the bus. **Elementary and Primary Students are not allowed technology or cell phones on the bus at any time.**
15. **Tobacco products, vape pens, alcohol, and any type of drugs (except listed in #14), or weapons are zero tolerance. This will automatically result in loss of riding privileges.**