LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Transportation Plan



2026-2029

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Domain 1: Student Safety and Program Reliability
Las Virgenes Unified School District places the highest priority on the safety, reliability, and consistency of student transportation services. Transportation is recognized not merely as a logistical function, but as an essential support service that directly impacts student access, attendance, and well-being. The District's transportation program is designed to ensure that students arrive at school and return home safely, on time, and in a manner that supports a calm and predictable start and end to the instructional day.

LVUSD works closely with its contracted transportation provider to ensure that all drivers meet state and federal requirements, including appropriate licensure, background checks, drug and alcohol testing, and ongoing safety training. Vehicles used for student transportation are inspected regularly, maintained in compliance with California Highway Patrol standards, and operated under established safety protocols. Special attention is given to route design, bus stop placement, and traffic flow to minimize hazards and reduce student exposure to unsafe roadway conditions.

For students with disabilities, transportation services are aligned with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and designed to meet both legal requirements and student needs. This includes appropriate vehicle accommodations, trained personnel, and coordination with Special Education staff to ensure consistency and compliance. The District continuously monitors transportation performance through incident reporting, parent feedback, and service reviews to maintain a high standard of safety and reliability.

Domain 2: Equity, Access, and Student Need
LVUSD's Transportation Plan is grounded in a commitment to equity and access. The District recognizes that transportation barriers can disproportionately impact low-income students, foster youth, homeless students, and those living in geographically isolated or high-traffic areas. As such, the District prioritizes transportation services for students with the greatest need, consistent with California Education Code requirements and available funding.

The District's geographic footprint includes canyon roads, limited pedestrian infrastructure, and long travel distances between residential areas and school sites. These conditions present safety concerns for walking or biking and create inequities in access for families without reliable transportation. LVUSD's plan seeks to mitigate these challenges by strategically allocating transportation resources to support students who would otherwise face significant barriers to school attendance or participation in extended learning opportunities.

Transportation services are coordinated with other District programs, including Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) offerings, to ensure that eligible students can access before- and after-school programs without transportation being a limiting factor. The District continuously evaluates demographic data, enrollment trends, and community feedback to identify gaps in service and opportunities to expand access in a fiscally responsible manner.

Domain 3: Operational Efficiency and Route Optimization
Operational efficiency is a core component of LVUSD's Transportation Plan. Given the high cost of student transportation and limited state reimbursement, the District is committed to maximizing the impact of every transportation dollar spent. This includes ongoing evaluation of route design, vehicle utilization, staffing models, and service levels.

LVUSD utilizes routing analysis, ridership data, and geographic information to identify opportunities to consolidate routes, reduce redundancy, and improve on-time performance. Routes are reviewed annually and adjusted as enrollment patterns, attendance boundaries, and program needs evolve. The District works collaboratively with its transportation provider to balance efficiency with service quality, recognizing that overly aggressive consolidation can negatively impact ride times and student experience.

The District also evaluates bell schedules, site logistics, and traffic patterns to ensure that transportation operations align with instructional priorities and campus safety considerations. By focusing on data-driven decision-making and continuous improvement, LVUSD aims to maintain a transportation system that is both cost-effective and responsive to student needs.

Domain 4: Fiscal Responsibility and Sustainability
LVUSD is committed to responsible stewardship of public funds and long-term fiscal sustainability in its transportation program. Historically, state transportation funding has covered only a portion of actual costs, requiring significant General Fund support. Recent increases in state transportation reimbursements provide an opportunity to stabilize services while maintaining prudent financial oversight.

Transportation funds are allocated to support legally required services, priority student populations, and strategic enhancements aligned with District goals. The District closely monitors transportation expenditures, contracts, and cost drivers, including fuel, labor, and maintenance. Financial decisions related to transportation are evaluated through the lens of long-term sustainability, ensuring that service expansions do not create structural deficits or unfunded obligations.
LVUSD also considers environmental sustainability as part of its fiscal planning. The District supports the gradual transition toward cleaner, lower-emission vehicles and explores grant opportunities and partnerships that align environmental benefits with cost efficiency. Investments in infrastructure improvements, route optimization, and technology are evaluated for both immediate impact and long-term return on investment.

Domain 5: Communication, Transparency, and Family Engagement
Clear communication and transparency are essential to the success of the District's transportation program. LVUSD is committed to providing families with timely, accurate, and accessible information regarding transportation eligibility, routes, expectations, and procedures. Transportation policies and updates are communicated through District websites, family communications, and school-based outreach.

The District encourages ongoing dialogue with families and community members to understand transportation challenges and identify opportunities for improvement. Feedback mechanisms, including parent inquiries, surveys, and public comment, inform annual reviews of transportation services and guide future planning decisions.

Internally, LVUSD ensures close coordination among Transportation, Special Education, Expanded Learning, and school site leadership to maintain alignment and responsiveness. Transportation planning is integrated into broader District operational planning, ensuring that decisions are transparent, well-documented, and aligned with Board priorities.

Domain 6: Continuous Improvement and Accountability

LVUSD views its Transportation Plan as a living document that evolves in response to changing student needs, funding structures, and operational realities. The District commits to annual review and refinement of the plan, including analysis of ridership data, service performance, fiscal outcomes, and stakeholder feedback.

Transportation outcomes are reported to District leadership and the Board of Education as part of regular operational and budget discussions. Adjustments to services, priorities, or funding allocations are made transparently and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. This continuous improvement framework ensures that the transportation program remains aligned with District goals, responsive to community needs, and accountable to students, families, and taxpayers.

Goals Summary (2026–2029)

LVUSD is committed to balancing fiscal stewardship with student safety and access by thoughtfully managing transportation services in a high-cost environment. Over the next three years, the District will focus on minimizing the impact of transportation costs on the General Fund while ensuring that students with the highest needs continue to have a safe, reliable path of travel to school.

These goals align with the District's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) requirements, and universal access initiatives.

1. Prioritize Transportation for Students with the Highest Needs While Expanding Equitable Access

Objective: Ensure transportation resources are first and foremost directed toward students with the greatest safety, access, and equity needs, while strategically exploring limited expansion for general education students where fiscally sustainable.
Actions:

- Identify neighborhoods with the highest transportation barriers (e.g., steep terrain, long walk zones, canyon routes, lack of sidewalks) and assess safety risk alongside cost.
- Prioritize transportation access for students with disabilities, foster and homeless youth, low-income students, and students attending Title I schools.
- Pilot reduced ridership in 2026-27, which minimizes encroachment on the General Fund.
- Regularly evaluate pilot routes to determine continuation, modification, or discontinuation based on usage and cost.

Outcomes:

- High-needs students consistently maintain safe, reliable access to school.
- Increased access for low-income students without materially increasing General Fund exposure.

2. Improve Fiscal Transparency, Route Efficiency, and Long-Term Sustainability

Objective: Actively manage transportation costs through data-driven decision-making to protect the General Fund while sustaining core services for students who need them most.
Actions:

- Publish an annual Transportation Efficiency Report detailing cost per rider, route utilization, waitlists, and funding sources.
- Incorporate transportation assumptions into multi-year budget planning and facilities master planning.
- Evaluate alternative service models, routing efficiencies, and potential cost-sharing opportunities with neighboring districts or County partners.

- Use data to make proactive adjustments rather than reactive reductions.

Outcomes:

- General Fund contributions to transportation remain stable or decline as a share of total costs.
- Clear alignment between transportation investments, student need, and fiscal capacity.

Applicable Codes and Law

California Education Code § 39800 — Authority to Provide Transportation

39800.
(a) The governing board of any school district may provide for the transportation of pupils to and from school whenever, in the judgment of the board, the transportation is advisable and good reasons exist therefore. The governing board may purchase or rent and provide for the upkeep, care, and operation of vehicles, or may contract and pay for the transportation of pupils to and from school by common carrier or municipally owned transit system, or may contract with and pay responsible private parties for the transportation. These contracts may be made with the parent or guardian of the pupil being transported. A governing board may allow the transportation of preschool or nursery school pupils in school buses owned or operated by the district. A state reimbursement may not be received by a district for the transportation of preschool or nursery school pupils.
(b) As used in this article, "municipally owned transit system" means a transit system owned by a city, or by a district created under Part 1 (commencing with Section 24501) of Division 10 of the Public Utilities Code. Justia Law

California Education Code § 39800.1 — Transportation Services Plan Requirement

39800.1.
(a) As a condition of receiving apportionments under Section 41850.1, a local educational agency shall develop a plan describing the transportation services it will offer to its pupils, and how it will prioritize planned transportation services for pupils in transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, and any of grades 1 to 6, inclusive, and pupils who are low income. The plan shall be adopted by the local educational agency's governing board on or before April 1, 2023, and updated by April 1 each year thereafter. The plan shall include the following components:
(1) A description of the local educational agency's transportation services that would be accessible to pupils with disabilities and homeless children and youth, as defined pursuant to the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11301 et seq.).
(2) A description of how unduplicated pupils, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 42238.02, would be able to access available home-to-school transportation at no cost to the pupils.
(b) (1) The plan shall be developed in consultation with classified staff, teachers, school administrators, regional local transit authorities, local air pollution control districts and air quality management districts, parents, pupils, and other stakeholders.
(2) The plan shall be presented and adopted by the governing board of the local educational agency in an open meeting with the opportunity for in-person and remote public comment.
(c) The plan may provide for the local educational agency to partner with a municipally owned transit system to provide service pursuant to this section to middle school and high school pupils.
(d) Nothing in a local educational agency's plan shall preclude a local educational agency from providing no-cost transit passes to pupils.
(e) For purposes of this section, "local educational agency" means a school district, excluding a school

district with a districtwide charter petition approved pursuant to Section 47606, or a county office of education. FindLaw Codes

California Education Code § 39831 — Regulations for Use of Schoolbuses

39831.
(a) The State Board of Education shall adopt reasonable regulations relating to the use of school buses by school districts and others. The regulations may not govern the safe operation of schoolbuses, which shall instead be adopted by the Department of the California Highway Patrol.
(b) The Department of the California Highway Patrol shall adopt regulations pursuant to Section 34500 of the Vehicle Code relating to the safe operation of school buses that shall also require school district governing boards to include in their school bus driver training programs the proper actions to be taken in the event that a school bus is hijacked. Justia Law

California Education Code § 39831.3 — School Transportation Safety Plan

39831.3.
(a) The county superintendent of schools, the superintendent of a school district, a charter school, or the owner or operator of a private school that provides transportation to or from a school or school activity shall prepare a transportation safety plan containing procedures for school personnel to follow to ensure the safe transport of pupils. The plan shall be revised as required. The plan shall address all of the following:
(1) Determining if pupils require escort pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 22112 of the Vehicle Code.
(2) Procedures for all pupils in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, to follow as they board and exit the appropriate schoolbus at each pupil's schoolbus stop.
(3) Procedures to ensure that a pupil is not left unattended on a schoolbus, school pupil activity bus, or youth bus.
(4) Procedures and standards for designating an adult chaperone, other than the driver, to accompany pupils on a school pupil activity bus.
(b) A current copy of a plan prepared pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be retained by each school subject to the plan and made available upon request to an officer of the Department of the California Highway Patrol.

California Education Code § 39831.5 — Pupil Safety Instruction

39831.5.
(a) All pupils in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, in public or private school who are transported in a school bus or school pupil activity bus shall receive instruction in school bus emergency procedures and passenger safety. The county superintendent of schools, superintendent of the school district, or owner/operator of a private school, as applicable, shall ensure that the instruction is provided as follows:
(1) Upon registration, the parents or guardians of all pupils not previously transported in a school bus or school pupil activity bus and who are in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 6, inclusive, shall

be provided with written information on school bus safety. The information shall include, but not be limited to, a list of school bus stops near each pupil's home, rules of conduct at loading zones, red light crossing instructions, school bus danger zones, and safe walking procedures to and from stops.

(2) At least once each school year, all pupils in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, who receive home-to-school transportation shall receive safety instruction that includes proper loading and unloading procedures, escorting by the driver, safe crossing procedures, use of passenger restraints (when installed), proper conduct, bus evacuation, and location of emergency equipment.

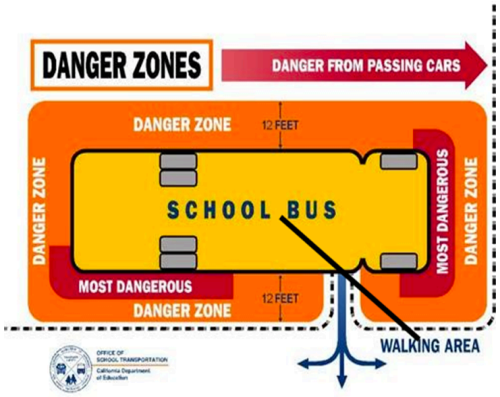
(3) Instruction on the use of passenger restraint systems shall include proper fastening, placement, and use practices.

(4) Prior to departure on a school activity trip, all pupils riding a school bus or pupil activity bus shall receive safety instruction that includes the location and use of emergency exits and equipment.

(b) The following information shall be documented each time the instruction required by subdivision (a)(2) is given: name and location of school, date of instruction, supervising adults, number of pupils and grade levels participating, subjects covered, time spent, bus driver's name, bus number, and additional remarks.

School Bus Rules

1. Students must present a physical bus pass every time in order to board the bus or they will be denied transportation. Screenshots on phones are not acceptable.
2. Students should arrive at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the school bus arrives. For safety purposes, students should arrive at the bus stop no more than ten (10) minutes before pick-up time.
3. For the safety of all students, bus riders should not chase or run after a bus. If a student arrives consistently late for bus pick-up, school administration will be notified.
4. If students are walking to the bus stop, they should follow the safest route. On the way to the bus stop, students should walk single file as far from the edge of the roadway as possible, and should not play or run.
5. If students are being driven to the bus stop, parents should park on the same side of the roadway as the bus, leaving enough room so the bus can pull in safely.
6. Students should wait in a designated location for the school bus, facing the bus as it approaches.
7. Students should wait for the bus to come to a complete stop, and let the driver open the doors before approaching the bus. Students should board the bus only when signaled by the driver.
8. Students should use the handrail when entering and exiting the bus to keep their balance. Students should not jump to the curb, but should step onto the pavement or ground.
9. Students should board the bus one at a time, move quickly to an open seat and fasten seat belt.
10. When exiting the bus, students should allow passengers closest to the front of the bus to exit first, and then students should immediately move away from the bus doors.
11. Students should not push, shove, or horseplay when boarding or exiting the bus.
12. Students must stay out of the bus' "Danger Zone" - anywhere within twelve feet of the bus. Students should not try to retrieve anything left on the bus after getting off the bus or pick up anything they drop underneath the bus. Things can be replaced… children can't.



13. Students must always follow the driver's directions regarding how to cross the street. Students should make sure the bus driver sees them and that they can see the driver. Be alert to traffic, stop at the edge of the bus, look left-right-left before crossing the street. Always walk in front of the bus being aware of the danger zone.
14. Students must stay in their seats and the use of seatbelts is required at all times. Students should remain seated until the bus has come to a complete stop. When exiting, students should wait to unbuckle their seat belt until after the driver has opened the doors.

15. Students must keep their heads, hands, and feet inside the bus. Students should never reach back into the bus through an open window.
16. Students should be courteous at all times, take direction and cooperate with the driver. Talking should be in a low conversational tone.
17. Students shall not use vulgar or profane language on the bus.
18. Students may not throw objects inside the bus or out of the windows, or create any unnecessary noise or commotion.
19. No smoking or vaping allowed. No intoxicating liquor or drugs are allowed on the bus.
20. No eating or drinking on the bus, except water, is permitted.
21. Students should keep the bus clean.
22. Students should never be destructive.
23. No animals shall be allowed on the bus, except trained service dogs.
24. Use of another student's bus pass will result in suspension of bus privileges for the owner of the bus pass, and the student using the pass.
25. Personal electronic devices may be used at student's own risk. Use of devices is the student's responsibility. Volume must be turned off or earbuds should be used. Any violation will result in a one-day suspension from riding the bus.
26. If at any time, the county, state or federal government updates rules regarding school bus transportation related to Covid-19 or other public health emergencies, parents and students will be required to comply.
27. A report will be kept on file for any student who is returned to their school site. If a student has to be returned back to their school site on more than one occasion, the bus pass may be revoked.

<u>Flashing Red Light Information for Crossing a roadway for students in grades TK – 8:</u>

1. After the bus has come to a complete stop at a bus stop, all students who must cross a roadway at that stop will come to the front of the bus. The other students not crossing the street must remain seated.
2. When the bus driver starts the red lights flashing, the students that need to cross the roadway must follow the bus driver out the bus door.
3. Students must stand at the curb line until the driver instructs students to cross the roadway.
4. State rules and regulations require that pupils who must cross the roadway from their bus stop to reach their homes must cross in front of the bus.
5. Exception: STUDENTS MAY CROSS THE ROADWAY UNESCORTED WHEN THERE IS A TRAFFIC CONTROLLED SIGNAL.
6. Parents cannot release the driver of the responsibility of seeing that the student complies with these rules.

<u>Bus Related Issues:</u>

1. In the event of fog in the upper mountains, the bus will turn around at the nearest location and return the students to their school, and parents/guardians will need to pick their students up at school. A notice will be sent to parents if this situation ever occurs.

2. In the event of a bus breakdown, students must remain on board the bus until a replacement bus arrives. The drivers will escort the students onto the replacement bus, at which time the route will continue. Parents/Guardians will be notified by Parent Square regarding the delay. Parents/Guardians should not pick up their students at the location of the bus breakdown, and instead should wait for their student to arrive on the replacement bus.
3. In the event of a bus accident, the driver will immediately contact Durham dispatch to report the incident. Dispatch will immediately contact emergency services/911 (as circumstances require), law enforcement/CHP, and the LVUSD District Office. Dispatch will send a replacement bus to the accident scene. As long as it is safe to do so, students must remain on board the bus until the CHP has authorized students to be released. Once students are released, they will be transferred to the replacement bus and continue route (as circumstances allow). Upon notification of the accident, the District will send a message via ParentSquare to Parents/Guardians regarding the accident and next steps.

TK, Kindergarten and First Grade Students

Transitional Kindergarten (TK), Kindergarten and 1st grade students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian to the AM stop and be met in the afternoon at the PM stop unless the student(s) are riding the bus with their older sibling(s). The person receiving the student shall make their presence visible to the bus driver promptly. If TK, Kindergarten and 1st grade students are not met in the afternoon and are not accompanied by an older sibling, the bus driver will continue the route with the TK, Kindergarten or 1st grade student. Upon completion of the route, the bus driver will return the student to the school site and the parent/guardian will be notified.

For safety reasons, the following incidents will result in immediate revocation of transportation privileges and may result in suspension from school:

- Fighting at a bus stop or on a bus.
- Actions which endanger the safety of any person either at a bus stop or on the bus.
- Damage to property at a bus stop or on the bus.
- Tampering with controls, emergency equipment, or exits.
- Three or more written conduct/incident reports.
- Severe or pervasive behavior as determined by the district.
- Actions from parents or guardians towards students or transportation staff that violates the district's Civility Policy. Refer to Board Policy 1313 for more information.

Please note: Riding the school bus is a privilege. In order to help ensure everyone's safety, video cameras are used to monitor student behavior. The District believes that a partnership among the parents, the transportation provider and the district administration is critical to ensure student safety, and on time service. The District hopes that you will help us help your child by ensuring they understand the behavior that is expected of them while riding the bus.

2025-2026 Bell Schedule
(Bussed Schools Only)

High Schools

Agoura High School	Monday: No Zero Period / 8:40am (First Period) - Dismissal 3:00pm Tues-Fri: No Zero Period / 8:30am (First Period) - Dismissal 3:30pm
Calabasas High School:	Monday: No Zero Period / 8:40am (First Period) - Dismissal 3:00pm Tues-Fri: No Zero Period / 8:30am (First Period) - Dismissal 3:30pm

Middle Schools

Arthur E. Wright Middle School	8:50 – 3:12 (M, T, Th and F)	8:50 – 2:00 (Wed)
Lindero Canyon Middle School	8:35 – 2:58 (M, T, Th and F)	8:35 – 1:41 (Wed)
Alice C. Stelle Middle School	8:18 – 2:35 (M, T, Th and F)	8:18 – 12:30 (Approx every other Wed.) (See Schedule for A.C. Stelle)

Elementary Schools

	TK	Kindergarten	Grades 1-3	Grades 4-5
Chaparral	8:00 – 1:15	8:00 – 1:50	8:00 – 2:05	8:00 – 2:31
	8:00 – 11:30 (Wed)	8:00 – 11:30 (Wed)	8:00 – 12:27 (Wed)	8:00 – 12:27 (Wed)
Wed Bus:	11:50	11:50	12:57	12:57
Lupin Hill	7:50 – 1:00	7:50 – 1:35	8:00 – 2:08	8:00 – 2:33
	7:50 – 11:30 (Wed)	7:50 – 11:30 (Wed)	8:00 – 12:23 (Wed)	8:00 – 12:23 (Wed)
Wed Bus:	11:45	11:45	12:45	12:45
	(No bus sales for TK in the PM)			
Round Meadow	7:55 – 1:10	7:55 – 1:45	8:00 – 2:11	8:00 – 2:38
	7:55 – 11:30 (Wed)	7:55 – 11:30 (Wed)	8:00 – 12:10 (Wed)	8:00 – 12:10 (Wed)
Wed Bus:	11:30	11:30	12:55	12:55
	(TK-K students eat lunch at 11am; sibling club avail only for TK and K students with older sibling)			
Sumac	8:10 – 1:20	8:10 – 2:10	8:10 – 2:23	8:10 – 2:50
	8:10 – 11:45 (Wed)	8:10 – 12:30 (Wed)	8:10 – 12:30 (Wed)	8:10 – 12:30 (Wed)
Wed Bus:	No PM sales to TK	1:00	1:00	1:00
White Oak				
	8:05 – 1:10	8:05 – 2:05	8:05 – 2:11	8:05 – 2:38
	8:05 – 12:25 (Wed)	8:05 – 12:35 (Wed)	8:05 – 12:35 (Wed)	8:05 – 12:35 (Wed)
Wed Bus:	12:35	12:35	12:35	12:35
	Lunch on Wednesdays is at 9:30 a.m.; 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. (12:35 Grab and Go lunch only)			



Fall 2025-2026 Fee Schedule

Number of Students	Round Trip	One Way
Single Student	$112	$78
Multiple Students	$100	$68

The Las Virgenes Unified School District partners with Durham School Services to offer a fee-based home to school transportation program for students enrolled in the District's regular education program at eligible Schools. Bus Passes must be purchased at the begining of each semester and are only valid for one semester.

Apply For A Pass | Manage Your Passes | View Bus Schedules

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