

March 1, 2024

PRE-KINDERGARTEN TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES

Dear Parent:

The procedure of the Board of Education regarding school bus transportation for pre-kindergarten is as follows:

Students living within one (1) mile of the school are not eligible for transportation and parents assume the responsibility for transporting their child to and from school. Students living over one (1) mile from school are eligible for transportation. School bus stop distances are designated not to exceed one (1) mile.

Out of district students are not eligible for transportation.

BUS STOPS:

Special bus stops are not established for pre-kindergarten children. These children get on, or off, at the regular bus stop with other elementary children. Every effort is made to schedule stops so that the children do not have to cross a major highway or road. However, this is not always possible and parents are advised that **MOTORIST DO NOT ALWAYS STOP FOR THE RED FLASHING LIGHTS OF THE SCHOOL BUS**. Therefore, please do not assume that the flashing red lights of the school bus will guarantee safety for your child crossing the roadway. Please use every precaution if your child must cross the street or roadway.

PARENTS ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR CHILD AT THE SCHOOL BUS STOP.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to provide supervision for their child while going to, from, or waiting at the designated bus stop.

SPECIAL NOTE: PARENTS MUST BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) Students that live in the school district in which they are enrolled are eligible for A. M. or P. M. transportation where service is provided. Noontime transportation is not provided. Out-of-district students are not eligible for transportation services. Eligible pre-kindergarten students that are enrolled in the A. M. session will ride a regular bus to school in the morning with parents being responsible for transporting their child home. For eligible student in the P. M. session, parents are responsible for transporting their child to school and the child will ride a regular bus home in the afternoon.
- 2) The parent, an adult, or a responsible older sibling **MUST BE PRESENT AT THE BUS STOP IN THE AFTERNOON** to receive their child. **If a parent is not at the stop to receive the child and it occurs three (3) times, the Department of Social Services will be contacted by the Transportation Department.**
- 3) The school principal must approve any requests for a student to change stops.

Changes are allowed only at existing stops. **School bus drivers are not authorized to make changes from their assigned route unless approved by the transportation department.**

Communication between the school, the parent, and the school bus driver is critical to the safe transportation of pre-kindergarten children.

PROCEDURES FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN WHENEVER DELAYED OPENING OR EARLY CLOSING OF SCHOOLS IS ANNOUNCED:

- Morning sessions of pre-kindergarten are canceled anytime there is a delayed opening of schools. These announcements are made by 5:15 a.m. through blackboard and **Allegany County Public School website <http://acps.org>.**
- Afternoon pre-kindergarten sessions are canceled (even though all schools may not dismiss early) whenever adverse weather and/or road conditions during the late morning hours deem it advisable to do so. Parents will be notified through blackboard for any special announcement regarding afternoon pre-kindergarten classes.

Please contact the school or the Pupil Transportation Office if you have any questions regarding these procedures.