

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT 2023-2024 INFORMATION

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- Assigned seating is mandatory on all school buses. The seating will be assigned by the bus driver at his/her discretion.
- **Please remember that any changes to transportation, other than a valid emergency, requires a minimum of three (3) days notice to the transportation department.**
- Please remember that voice mail messages may be left at the above numbers for any emergency changes or unforeseen changes in work schedules. Messages may be left after hours or on weekends, if needed.
- Vehicles that provide student transportation in the Pine Grove Area School District may be equipped with audio/video surveillance equipment. Students are to be reminded that their behavior will be recorded and any disciplinary decisions may be based on the surveillance review.

Transportation Department Summary of School Board District Policy No. 810

Requests for a change in transportation must be received no later than the second Friday of July. Changes submitted to alter the transportation requested on the survey form after this date may not be guaranteed for the first two weeks' school.

Transportation may be provided, upon approval, to one alternate location such as daycare or babysitter. However, no "on occasion" requests will be approved. Alternate location changes shall be for one location only, AM and/or PM on an established route. Primary and alternate assignments must remain the same week to week.

Parents/guardians are responsible for making their own arrangements for periodic babysitting or visits to family or friends. Students will not be dropped off at any location other than their assigned bus stop due to the limited seating on the busses and to ensure the safety of the children. Daily changes in transportation will no longer be accepted for any reason except extreme, unforeseen emergency. **Any permanent changes to transportation require a three (3) day notification to the transportation department.**

Bus Rules and Guidelines

As the new school year progresses, parents of pupils who ride the school buses are encouraged to review the rules of conduct with their children. Children should be reminded that breaking one or more of these rules could result in suspension of bus riding privileges.

Prior to Loading:

1. Students must follow school rules while they wait for the bus.
2. Students should wait for the bus at a safe place, well off the highway, on the side of the street on which they live. Cross the street to enter the bus, if necessary, only when the bus is stopped, the red flashing signals are on and the driver signals it is safe to cross the road.
3. Students must be at the bus stop 5 minutes prior to the time designated and be ready to board with the least possible delay. The time designated is the departure, not the arrival time.
4. Respect the property rights of people who reside at or near the bus stop.
5. Students may board only assigned buses and may board only at the bus stop they are assigned.

While on the Bus:

(These rules also apply to field trips and athletic trips)

1. Observe regular classroom conduct except for ordinary conversation and follow the bus driver's instructions. The bus driver has the same authority on the bus as a teacher has in the classroom. Disrespect of the bus driver will be considered a severe violation.
2. Loud talking, laughter and other similar conduct diverts the driver's attention and may result in a serious accident.
3. Students may not block aisle or emergency door with musical instruments, lunch boxes, books or other possessions.
4. Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion or if the bus is delayed on the road.
5. Students must not extend arms, head or any other items out of the windows.
6. Students must not damage or tamper with any parts of the bus or use the emergency door except in the case of an emergency.
7. Horseplay, fighting, vulgarity, profanity, throwing items in the bus or other improper conduct is not permitted.
8. Any conduct that endangers the safety of the other students or driver will be considered severe and could result in immediate loss of bus riding privileges.

After Leaving the Bus:

1. When necessary, cross the road at least 10 feet in front of the bus but only after looking to be sure that no traffic is approaching from both directions and the driver signals it is safe to cross the road.
2. Help look after the safety and comfort of small children.
3. Be alert to the danger signal from the bus driver.
4. Go directly to your school building in the morning and directly home in the afternoon.

School Bus Surveillance Systems

Vehicles that provide student transportation in the Pine Grove Area School District may be equipped with audio and video surveillance equipment. Students are to be reminded that their behavior will be recorded and any disciplinary decisions may be based on the surveillance review.