

NORWICH/DRESDEN

School Transportation Guide

2016-2017

A guide to making better use of your public school transportation

*This guide is part of an overall school district effort
to increase the use of the school bus system.*

Did you know?

You don't have to ride the bus every day to ride it any day.

Advantages of riding the bus:

Safety

Riding on a school bus is about 13 times safer for children than riding in a personal car.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Traffic Congestion

Between 1980 and 2000, auto use in the Upper Valley has increased by 80%, while population increased by only 20%.

According to Vital Communities

Environmental Gains

Skipping just one 3-mile car trip each week for a year will prevent the emission of 950 pounds of carbon dioxide, the leading greenhouse gas associated with global warming.

General Information: Policies & Questions

We believe it is important for parents and the School District to work together in promoting a safe pupil transportation system in which high standards of safety and decorum are maintained. Many parents will have questions about the use of school buses. You will find the answers to many of your questions under "Bus Guidelines" either on your school web site or in your school handbook.

Day-to-day issues concerning discipline, behavior, etc. should be referred to the appropriate school administrator. Routine questions (late or early bus, missed stop, etc.) should be referred to Mike Gaudette at Student Transport of America, 802-698-8528 or mgaudette@ridesta.com.

- Marion Cross School.....(802) 649-1703
Bill Hammond, Principal... bill.hammond@hanovernorwickschools.org
- Frances C. Richmond School.....(603) 643-6040
Mike Lepene, Principal... mike.lepene@hanovernorwickschools.org
- Hanover High School.....(603) 643-3431
Justin Campbell, Principal... justin.campbell@hanovernorwickschools.org

If a question deals with the bus contractor (equipment, driver qualifications, and behavior, etc.), or ongoing issues related to

routes, schedules, stops, etc., it should be referred to Jamie Teague, Business Administrator (jamieteague@sau70.org) at (603) 643-6050. In all cases the Superintendent, and then the School Board, can be involved if the questions are not resolved.

Bus Route Changes

Don't assume you know the routes, as we have made some changes this year. Bus routes and stops are accurate as of the date of publication, but are subject to change during the course of the year depending on actual ridership patterns. *All times are estimated.* **Students are advised to be at their stops five minutes before the scheduled stop time. Due to space limitations all stops may not be listed in this booklet.**

Kindergarten Transportation

Kindergarten students ride the regular route buses to the Ray School in the morning and home at the end of the school day. It is essential that an adult receive kindergarten students at their stop. Drivers are instructed NOT to drop Kindergartners at stops without an adult to receive them, unless other arrangements have been requested and approved in writing.

Afternoon Activity Bus

Due to budgetary changes, there is no longer an afternoon activity bus.

Oversized Items

Smaller items, such as small musical instruments or projects which students can either hold in their laps or put under their seats, may be carried on the bus. Larger items, such as large musical instruments, which require the use of another seat on the bus may not be allowed, depending on how crowded the bus is. For obvious safety reasons, unusually bulky objects (e.g. hockey or lacrosse sticks, skis, etc.) which require the use of the center aisle can not be allowed. The bus driver will determine which objects are acceptable and which are not.

School Closings

If school is to be closed due to inclement weather conditions, announcements will be broadcast on WMUR TV9, WTSL/WGXL (1400 AM, 92.3 FM), WNHV (910 AM), WKXE (95.3 FM), WMXR (93.9 FM), WHDQ (Q106-106.1 FM), KIXX (100.5 FM), V-101 (101.7 FM), WNTK (1020 AM, 99.7 FM), and WCVR (102.1 FM). This announcement will normally be made by 6:00 A.M. School closing information is also posted on WMUR TV's website www.thewmurchannel.com, which is accessible through a link on www.sau70.org during the winter season.

The District also operates an automatic call system, which notifies parents on days when there are school cancellations and delays. This automatic call will normally be made by 6:00 a.m., or shortly thereafter. If you are not receiving these calls, or if you would like to receive them at a different phone number, or you would like NOT to receive those phone calls, please contact your school's secretary.

Delayed Openings

If, for weather or other reasons, a two hour delay is called, all school related schedules will be moved two hours later. Therefore, if your child customarily waits for a bus at 7:20 a.m., he or she should wait for the bus at 9:20 a.m. If your child's school's start time is 8:00 a.m., the starting time will change to 10:00 a.m. If a two hour delay has been announced as described above, and it is later determined that conditions have NOT improved and schools will be closed, an announcement to that effect will be made on the radio and TV stations listed above before 8:00 a.m. Continue to monitor radio stations and the web in case school is subsequently canceled.