

NCCS Transportation Department FAQs

How will the buses be sanitized?

The school buses will be fully sanitized two times per day by school district staff using the same sanitizing solution that is being used in the school buildings. As time allows, bus drivers (and bus aides where they exist) will also sanitize frequently touched points on the bus such as handrails.

How will students be seated on the bus? We will begin by seating students from back to front, skipping every other row on the first pass through. Then, on the second pass, students will fill in the open rows from back to front again. Our goal is that there will be no more than two students per seat. In the event that does not happen at first, we will analyze our routes and see if changes can be made to better balance the buses.

My child requires special education busing as stated in her IEP, will any accommodations be changing for this school year? We will continue to use the best practices we have learned for safe transportation while dealing with Covid-19.

Will there be aides on all buses? Our special needs buses have aides assigned for student safety, but for the most part, regular routes do not have aides on them.

Will hand sanitizer be available on the bus?

Yes, hand sanitizer stations will be located just inside the bus doors. All students will be asked to use the sanitizer each time boarding the bus.

When can we expect to see the bus routes posted and how will they be posted this year?

We expect to post routes by Thursday, August 20th at Noon. They will be posted on the district website, under “Departments,” and then “Transportation.”

Are students required to wear masks on the school bus? Masks are required for school bus transportation just as it is required in the classroom. In the event your child has a medical note on file with the school building allowing him/her to not wear a mask, then this would be honored on the bus.

Will temperature be taken prior to getting on the bus? School employees will not be taking temperatures. All staff and students are asked to take their temperature at home prior to leaving for school.

How will parents be notified if their children's bus will be delayed or late due to many bus drivers being sick? In the event of a bus being significantly late, we will utilize the text messaging function that is part of the school building's all-call system. If your cell number is

currently receiving phone calls from your child's building principal, then it will receive the text messages. We were able to use this successfully in 2019.

What will happen with children that need to be bused from daycares in the morning and then home in the afternoon?

In situations like this where children may ride multiple buses in the course of a day/week, we will still allow for two buses to be used as long as we can. Many other districts in Ohio and Stark County have gone to only allowing parents to choose one bus in this situation. We will hold off making that decision as we know this is a hardship for the parents. However, we will no longer allow a student to ride more than two school buses (i.e., Mom's house, Dad's house and a day care facility).

Will siblings be seated together?

Yes, we will seat siblings together. If there is a situation where siblings do not have the same last name, please notify the bus driver as this is information they do not have access to.

Will the school buses ride with the windows open all year? Right now, the plan is to keep the windows open as much as possible barring rain. We do know that fresh air and masks is the greatest weapon we have to combat Covid-19. Students should dress appropriately for the weather and consider keeping a hat on them as cooler mornings set in. Currently, elementary schools have outdoor recess until the wind chill factor falls below 20 degrees. We can have the windows open partially as temperatures start to drop this fall, but our drivers will work to bring in as much fresh air as we can, within reason.

Is it true that the bus driver will not let my child off the bus if I am not waiting at the stop? For the safety of the children, parents of pre-K to 2nd grade students are asked to be at the bus stop or at least visible to the bus driver when the bus arrives or drops off their child. Drivers will keep the child(ren) on the bus with them until they are able to contact a parent/guardian. If the driver finishes their route and the parents/guardians have not been reached, the child(ren) will be returned to the school.

Can my child ride home with a friend from school? That will not be allowed until further notice.

Who supervises children at the bus stops? Parents are responsible for the safety of their child(ren) while they are at the bus stop.