

2021



**Reconnect.**  
**Reopen.**  
**Stay Safe.**

## School Bus FAQs and School Bus Rider Protocols

The information below covers safety procedures and protocols for school bus transportation. Students on school buses are asked to practice appropriate health protocols (face coverings, hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette). When possible, parents are encouraged to drive their children to school and/or carpool.

**Thank you for following all guidelines.**

### **1. What should students do to stay safe at the bus stop?**

Parents should remind all students to practice physical distancing at bus stops and always wear their cloth face covering while at the bus stop and on the bus. Students should not share food or school items.

### **2. Will there be hand sanitizer available for students?**

Yes, each bus is equipped with hand sanitizer for student and staff use.

### **3. Will students be required to wear a face covering/mask?**

Students will be required to wear a face covering/mask the entire time they are on the school bus. Face coverings/masks will be provided for students who may not have one.

### **4. How should students load the bus?**

The driver will load the bus from rear to front. Students should enter the bus from the front door and proceed to the rear. Either two or three students will be assigned per seat, depending on grade level.

### **5. What should students do while riding the bus?**

Students are to remain in the same seat during the entire ride. As weather permits, windows will remain open to increase air circulation. Students are asked to follow the directions of the bus driver.

**6. What are the procedures to exit the bus?**

The driver will unload the bus from front to back.

**7. What steps will be taken if a student is sick or states they have COVID-19?** An ill student will not be allowed to board the bus and will be asked to return home. The driver will notify the supervisor and school official upon arrival.

**8. What are the expectations upon arrival at school?**

The driver will release all students. A school staff member should be available to assist with unloading.

**9. Have bus drivers received COVID-19 training?**

Yes, all bus drivers have undergone the district's employee training prior to returning to work.

**10. What are the procedures for cleaning?**

School bus drivers have been trained to properly clean buses and will be required to clean buses after each transportation run is complete.

**11. What if a school bus driver becomes ill during the day?**

If a school bus driver becomes ill during the day, they will notify their supervisor, go home, and remain at home. GCS will encourage any ill driver to seek medical treatment or visit the health department.

**12. What if a school bus driver becomes ill on the bus?**

If a school bus driver becomes ill during their route, they will notify their supervisor, be immediately relieved of duties and asked to seek medical attention. All appropriate staff will be notified for both situations. Bus will be removed from service for cleaning and disinfecting.

**13. What if a student becomes ill during the day at school?**

If a student becomes ill while at school, the student will be placed in an isolation room where they can quietly and safely rest and be seen by a nurse while waiting for their parents to pick them up from school.

**14. What if a student becomes ill on the bus?**

The student will be relocated to the front of the bus. A school staff member will be notified upon arrival that the student is ill. The student will be placed in an isolation room where they can quietly and safely rest and be seen by a nurse while waiting for their parents to pick them up from school. The bus will be cleaned and disinfected following cleaning procedures.

## Protocols for Boarding the School Bus

### When getting on the school bus, students should:

- Maintain physical distance at bus stop and while entering the bus.
- Wear face covering. If students do not have a face covering, one will be provided.
- Clean their hands with the hand sanitizer provided.
- Scan your One Card when loading the school bus.
- School bus drivers will direct students during this process. Failure to comply with the bus driver's directions could result in disciplinary action and the loss of transportation privileges.

## Protocols for Exiting the School Bus

### When exiting the school bus, students should:

- Maintain physical distance on bus and in aisle while waiting to exit the bus.
- Wear face covering. If students do not have a face covering, one will be provided.
- Leave the school bus front to back in an orderly fashion
- Scan your One Card before exiting the school bus.
- Clean their hands with the hand sanitizer provided as they exit.
- Failure to comply with the bus driver's or other staff member's directions could result in disciplinary action and the loss of transportation privileges.

**Please note:** Public health information and directives change frequently. Please visit the district's [Reconnect. Reopen. Stay Safe.](#) website for the most current information.

*Updated as of August 5, 2021*