



School Bus FAQs and School Bus Rider Protocols

Students on school buses are asked to practice appropriate health protocols, including wearing face coverings/masks, social distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette. Parents should remind all students to practice social distancing at school bus stops and while entering/exiting the bus. Face coverings/masks should be worn at bus stops and on the bus. Drivers have masks available for students who need one. In keeping with the updated guidance from the CDC and the state public health department, all students can now be seated two to a bench seat on school buses. **Thank you for following all guidelines.**

1. What should students do to protect their health at bus stops or on school buses?

Parents should remind all students to practice social distancing at bus stops and while entering/exiting the bus. Students also must wear a face covering/mask while on the bus. Students should not share food or school items. Please plan to arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes before the scheduled pickup time.

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 are required to wear a face covering/mask the entire time they are on the school bus or on school grounds. Bus drivers will provide face coverings/masks for students who do not have one.

4. How should students load the bus?

The driver will load the bus from rear to front in a socially distanced manner. Students should enter the bus from the front door and proceed to the rear. Transportation will ensure that the assignment of students to each bus will not exceed two students per seat.

5. What should students do while riding the bus?

Students must 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 in a socially distanced manner.

7. What steps will be taken if a student is sick?

An ill student will not be allowed to board the bus and will be asked to return home. The driver will notify the supervisor immediately and school principal upon arrival to campus.

8. What are the expectations upon arrival at school?

The driver will release all students. School staff members are 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. All employees reporting will have their temperatures and health checked at dispatch prior to driving the bus.

10. What are the procedures for cleaning?

School bus drivers have been trained to properly clean buses and are 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, he or she will notify his or her 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, he or she will notify his or her supervisor, be immediately relieved of duties and asked to seek medical attention. All appropriate staff will be notified for both situations. The bus will be removed from service and cleaned/disinfected.

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

Students who become ill while at school will be placed in an isolation room where they can rest quietly and safely 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 he or she can rest quietly and safely and be seen by a nurse while waiting for his or her parents to pick them up from school.

Protocols for Boarding the School Bus

When getting on the school bus, students should:

- Maintain social distance at bus stop and while entering the bus.
- Wear face covering. If students do not have a face covering, one will be provided.
- Wash their hands with the hand sanitizer provided.
- Scan their One Card when loading the school bus.
- Do not sit in any seats marked as unavailable or where two students are already seated.
- 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 social distance on bus and in aisle while waiting to exit the bus.
- Wear face covering/mask. If students do not have a face covering, one will be provided.
- Leave the school bus front to back in an orderly fashion.
- Scan their One Card before exiting the school bus.
- Wash their hands with the hand sanitizer provided as they exit.
- Maintain social distance after exiting the school bus and while approaching the school entrance.
- 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 April 19, 2021