



## School Bus FAQs and School Bus Rider Protocols

The information below covers safety procedures and protocols for school bus transportation. Parents/guardians are required to complete a paper health attestation form or electronic health attestation form daily, so we can ensure every student remains safe and healthy. **Per state public health requirements, students may not board school buses during COVID-19 without a completed health attestation form.** Paper health attestation forms will be collected by the bus driver daily for elementary students. A link to the electronic attestation form will be shared with parents/guardians by their school administration. The [electronic](#) health attestation form will be shared with parents/guardians prior to the start of bus service.

Starting Feb. 22, middle and high school students and parents will use the Safety iPass in lieu of an attestation form. A link to complete health screening questions will be sent to student and parent emails each morning. Students must complete the form and show the green badge to the driver to board the bus.

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 social distancing of 6 feet or more 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. What is the process for checking temperatures?

Upon arrival to school, all students will disembark from the bus and school staff will perform temperature checks.

### 3. Will there be hand sanitizer available for students?

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

**4. Will students be required to wear a cloth face covering?**

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

**5. 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. Transportation will ensure the assignment of students to each bus run will not exceed one student per seat for middle and high school bus riders. Seats may have more than one student assigned for K – 5 bus riders but will not exceed 40 passengers per bus.

**6. 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 regarding seating. Elementary students will be seated 2 to a seat while middle and high school students will sit 1 to a seat.

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

The driver will unload the bus from front to back to ensure social distancing.

**8. 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.

**9. 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 and the collection of any paper attestation forms. Temperatures will be taken at school.

**10. 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 checked at dispatch prior to driving the bus.

**11. 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.

**12. What is the procedure for social distancing on the bus?**

School bus drivers will make sure the bus is set up and labeled for proper social distancing.

**13. 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.

**14. How do I get the paper attestation form and the electronic attestation form?**

Schools will provide parents with a hard copy of the attestation form via mail prior to the first day of school or parents will have to complete an electronic form by complete the following [link](#). Hard copies can also be sent home by school administrators.

**15. 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 deep cleaning.

**16. 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.

**17. 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.

## 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.
- Take the first open bus seat marked, starting from the back row and moving row by row to the front. Seats are marked to ensure appropriate social distancing.
- Do not sit in any seats marked as unavailable.
- Maintain social distance (6 feet or more). Avoid touching windows, seat backs and other surfaces as much as possible.

## 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. 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.
- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet or more (stay in seat until you can stay six feet apart in the aisle between seats – follow the markings on the floor.
- Wash their hands with the hand sanitizer provided as they exit.
- Maintain social distance of 6 feet or more after exiting the school bus and while approaching the school entry.
- 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.
- 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.

**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 Feb. 19, 2021*