

WCPS BUS TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES

Parents & Students:

- Follow all WCPS guidelines for COVID 19 screenings and procedures prior to being transported.
- Face coverings may be worn while riding the school bus.
- Students should sit only in the seat to which they are assigned.
- Prior to exiting the bus, students should remain seated and not congregate in the aisle.
- Continue to adhere to all directives provided by the driver and follow all Transportation Bus Rules.

Drivers and Attendants:

- Follow all WCPS guidelines for COVID 19 screenings and procedures prior to reporting to work.
- All Drivers and Attendants may be required to wear face coverings.
- Drivers who become ill during their route should contact their supervisor immediately.
- To minimize exposure, drivers are encouraged to refrain from exiting their school buses while on school property or congregate in any manner unless necessary. This includes, but not limited to, while waiting in line up at school or during any other time that requires them to sit in the bus seat.
- Each bus will be provided with hand sanitizer. All staff is encouraged to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.

Bus Configuration:

“Local school systems may not be able to meet the demands of adherence to CDC recommendations. However, each school system must put into practice, innovative ways to combat the spread of COVID-19.” (Maryland Together: Maryland’s Recovery Plan for Education)

- Students not residing in the same household may be seated together.
- All students will have assigned seats and if possible, the seat will be based on the route, so students are loading in the rear and working forward, and vice versa on the return trip.
- To increase/improve airflow:
 - Whenever feasible, windows may be opened to the maximum extent.
 - Driver side window may be open, and fans may be utilized to increase the air flow whenever possible.

Bus Cleaning/Specialized Equipment:

- School buses will have heightened cleaning frequency.
- Buses and specialized equipment should be cleaned once all morning runs have concluded and again once all afternoon runs have been completed.
- Disposable gloves may be worn to clean and disinfect.
- Cleaning between routes may occur if feasible.
- The focus for cleaning will be on “high-touch” areas of the bus, such as:
 - Handholds/rails, pull cords, rails, steering wheels, door handles, shift knobs, dashboard controls and stanchions
 - Window ledges
 - Spot cleaning walls and seats to include seat backs
 - Specialized Equipment required for transport will be cleaned in between each bus run.
 - Parents of students with safety vests should clean the safety vest each evening.
- If a student or staff member who was on a bus has experienced symptoms, the bus will be taken out of service for cleaning and disinfecting prior to being placed back into service.