## To The Parents of Elementary Students

For the safety and protection of children attending elementary school classes, note the following helpful reminders:

- It is highly recommended that k-2 elementary students have a name and address tag placed on their clothing. DO NOT PUT TAGS INSIDE SCHOOL BACK PACKS. Name and addresses should be visible. Keep tags on students for at least the first two weeks of school.
- Drop-off times may vary for the first two weeks of school until bus routes are firmly established. The school dismissal time plus 15 minutes will help you estimate and approximate the drop-off time for students based on the location and distance of the bus stop from the school..
- If we feel that the safety of an elementary student is in question at drop-off time, the student will be returned to school and the parents/guardians will be contacted by campus officials.

We encourage you to meet your child every day at their designated bus stop.

Students are responsible for contributing to the safe operation of the school bus – not detracting from it!

### Pick Up Time Criteria

Regular transportation attempts to arrive at every bus stop on time. Due to variances between individual clocks, students are asked to arrive at the bus stop five minutes prior to the scheduled arrival time. Buses will load students and depart the stop. Regular buses do not wait for late students under most circumstances. Special Needs Transportation uses the same standard but will wait up to two minutes at a stop for a special needs student to load. Students are expected to proceed immediately to the buses. Bus drivers are instructed not to stop or open the door for late students once the bus begins to move for safety reasons. FBISD strongly discourages students from approaching a moving bus.

#### Bus Route Criteria Route Design

Bus stop guidelines for regular transportation:

**Elementary school** - bus stop will be up to .20 miles (1056 feet). *Middle school and High school* - bus stop will be up to .50 miles (2640 feet).

Bus routes are created to enhance student safety while maximizing vehicle efficiency. Stops are created at locations that allow students to wait off the main roadway for the bus if at all possible. Stops are not placed in cul-de -sacs or dead-end streets whenever possible to minimize bus accidents. Bus stops will be located at the corner of intersections and middle of the block that match the distance guidelines. The above criteria apply to regular education students only. Special needs stops may be subject to different criteria.

#### Bus Ridership

School buses are rated by manufacturers to have a capacity of three riders per seat. Fort Bend ISD has adopted maximum ridership per bus at three riders per seat at elementary levels, two and a half riders per seat at middle school levels, and two riders per seat at high school levels.

# F.B.I.S.D. TRANSPORTATION

# Parent Information

The Mission of Fort Bend ISD Transportation Services is to provide safe, efficient, and reliable transportation services to the students of Fort Bend ISD, so that they may access the educational and cultural opportunities provided by the district and become productive community members.



Student Safety

The Fort Bend Independent School District is committed to providing a safe method of transportation for all eligible students. The privilege of transportation requires that students obey appropriate safety and conduct rules.

Just a reminder – State law requires all vehicles to stop when approaching a school bus with the red loading lights flashing.

In addition, by state law "a person commits an offense if the person intentionally disrupts, prevents, or interferes with the lawful transportation of children to or from school or an activity sponsored by a school on a vehicle owned or operated by a county or independent school district."

## Student Elígíbility

Fort Bend ISD Transportation is pleased to provide quality educational services for your children. Transportation is available for students who live two or more miles from their assigned school as measured through our routing system. The distance a student lives from their assigned school is determined by measuring the shortest route that may be traveled on public roads as defined in our routing system. Students residing within two miles of their assigned school will be given the opportunity to apply for pay transportation.

#### Pay Transportation

Pay transportation requests will be granted based on space availability and will be provided only at a bus stop near an established route.

Applications are available at each transportation terminal.

Pay transportation is NOT provided for Intra-District Transfer.

Some students who attend more than one school to participate in vocational programs or classes not offered at their school are transported between schools during school hours. Special education students are eligible for transportation if need is established through the Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) process.

## Frequently Asked Questions

# 1. The bus did not show up on time for my child, how long should he/she wait at the stop?

Your child should arrive at the stop at least 10 minutes before the regular arrival time of the bus. If there is a substitute driver, the times may not be absolutely consistent with the regular times. If the bus is late ask your child to remain at the stop. Buses break down, roads are blocked, drivers become ill or have emergencies, but there will always be a bus at every stop. If the wait becomes extreme (approximately 30 minutes), please call 281-634-4077 or Hodges Bend at 281-634-1970 or Lake Olympia at 281-634-1930.

# 2. My child's bus is overcrowded. Can some children be placed on another bus?

School bus sizes are stated in terms of passenger capacity for elementary school students. It is assumed that elementary school students will ride three per seat. Middle school students are assumed to ride two-three per seat. High school students are assumed to ride two per seat. If the bus has three elementary school students, two-three middle school students, or two high school students in each seat, it will seem crowded but it will not be over capacity. It is our goal to fully utilize all the space on all the buses in our fleet.

# 3. I can not see my child's bus stop from my house. How can I get the bus stop moved closer?

Bus stops are placed at centralized locations that can be safely accessed by a significant number of students and to minimize the time length and mileage of the run. If you have concerns about your child's safety you are encouraged to accompany your child to the bus stop or arrange a neighborhood buddy to walk with your child. Elementary school students may be required to walk up to .20 miles (1000 feet) to a bus stop. Middle school and High school students may be required to walk up to .50 miles (2640 feet) to a bus stop.

### Contact Information



If you have questions or concerns about Special Needs Transportation services for your child, please call the Transportation Department at 281-634-1939 for the Lake Olympia Terminal or 281-634-1983 for the Hodges Bend Terminal.

> Hodges Bend Terminal 16707 Bissonnet Houston, TX 7083 281-634-1970

Lake Olympia Terminal 3130 Lake Olympia Parkway Missouri City, TX 77459 281-634-1930

E-mail: Transport.support@fortbendisd.com with your concerns or questions. Customer Support - 281-634-4077