

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, dedicated to transporting our nation's future!

Every school day, some 440,000 yellow school buses transport more than 24 million children to and from schools and school related activities. To give perspective to the huge magnitude of transportation, the equivalent of the population of Florida, Massachusetts, and Oregon ride a school bus twice daily.

Volusia County Schools Student Transportation Services transports approximately 25,000 students and travels 25,319 miles a day. When calculated, we travel approximately 4,557,404 miles per year.

The National Safety Council reports that school buses are the safest form of ground transportation in the United States. Your child's safety is our number one priority!

TRAINING OF SCHOOL BUS PERSONNEL

To qualify for training, each applicant must complete the District application procedure including: fingerprinting, drug testing, and a misdemeanor/felony report for each county of residency for the last five years. Applicants for School Bus Operator must also pass the Motor Vehicle Record Criteria.

OPERATORS: Volusia County has certified Commercial Driver License Instructors. Training consists of 32 hours of classroom training, 20 hours of behind-the-wheel training, and mentoring. Operators must pass a physical and dexterity test after training is completed and each year thereafter to obtain a "School Bus License."

ATTENDANTS: Each applicant for school bus attendant is screened and must complete 40 hours of classroom/hands-on instruction in loading, unloading and securement of wheelchairs to ensure a safe ride.

Operators are required by the Department of Education to annually attend an eight hour recertification course. Volusia County School

Board extends that requirement and includes the bus attendants as well.

FLEET MAINTENANCE

The Volusia County School Board has one of the largest transit school bus fleets in the southeast. We are required by Florida law to perform preventive maintenance and regularly scheduled inspections to ensure a safe ride for all our valued customers.

SERVICES PROVIDED

REGULAR EDUCATION STUDENTS

Volusia County Schools provides transportation according to Section 1006 of the Florida Statutes; *"any distance more than two (2) miles between the home and school or one and one-half (1 ½) miles between the home and the assigned bus stop. Such distance shall be measured from the closest pedestrian entry point of the property where the student resides to the closest pedestrian entry point of the assigned school or to the assigned bus stop. The pedestrian entry point of the residence shall be where private property meets the public right-of-way. The district shall determine the shortest pedestrian route whether or not it is accessible to motor vehicle traffic."*

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Student Transportation Services provides transportation for many students with special needs. To obtain specialized transportation; the student must have an Individual Education Plan stating transportation is a related service. The request for transportation must be submitted by the assigned school to GIS/ Routing Department.

Special equipment is provided for special needs students such as unique seating device, harness, baby seat, infant seat and/or wheelchair accessible buses.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities: 6A3.0121(5)(A) *(Parents shall provide the necessary assistance and protection for their children while en route to and from the school bus stop and comply with the*

school bus schedule. Parents shall provide the necessary supervision of such at the bus stop.

In cases where the physical impairment of a student rider is unable to get on and off the bus without assistance, parents shall provide the necessary assistance for helping their student get on and off the bus at the bus stop.

FIELD STUDY TRIPS: School buses are used to provide transportation for students to attend field study trips in relation to their academics.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Please note that Hardship (Principal) Variance Requests and Alternate Bus Stop Requests are no longer available to parents

ALL Requests, whether it is a change of bus stop, relocation of a bus stop or a student requiring special equipment, must be submitted through their assigned school to Student Transportation Services.

General Phone Numbers

Director of Transportation	736-6753 X20810
Assistant Director East Side	258-4677 X50514
Assistant Director West Side	575-4200 X40018
Assistant Director Fleet & Fin	736-6753 X20814
Area 1 Manager	258-4677 X50512
Area 2 Manager	258-4677 X50504
Area 3 Manager	426-7347
Area 4 Manager	736-6753 X20835
Area 5 Manager	575-4200 X40012
Area 6 Manager	575-4200 X40023
GIS/Routing Manager	736-6753 X20866

Do your part to make every ride a safe one!

School bus safety depends on you!

Be a Responsible Rider!

RULES YOUR CHILD SHOULD KNOW

1. Students must obey the driver for student safety.
2. Why be in a rush? Get to the bus stop ten minutes prior to the scheduled time for pick-up. Running to the bus can be dangerous!
3. Students must stand off roadway while waiting for the bus. Respect other people's property as you wait. Don't walk in the roadway, push or shove anyone or stand in front of the bus as a joke. When you see the bus coming, stand at the stop and wait for the bus to come to a complete stop. Remember, it only takes one bad move for someone to get hurt.
4. Students must get on and off at their assigned bus stop unless an Transportation Boarding Pass is provided by the school and signed by the principal.
5. Students shall remain seated in assigned seats and quiet talk will normally be permitted on school buses. Students must be *absolutely* quiet when approaching a railroad track.
6. Students shall not eat food, drink beverages, use or possess drugs or tobacco products on the bus. School sale items may be transported when carried in sealed containers.
7. Students shall not possess items which would threaten the safety of students or personnel.
8. Students must not use abusive signs, language or gestures.
9. Students shall not fight, push or create any type of disturbance.
10. Students shall not bring live reptiles, insects, animals or marine life on the bus. Any items which are detrimental to the students' safety such as glass containers, sharp objects, balls, bats, and skateboards are prohibited.
11. Student must carry musical instruments on their laps or between their knees, and instruments shall not extend into the walkway or another student's seating area. Batons and drumsticks will be permitted on a school bus if they are in a proper case.
12. Both the parent/guardian and the student will be held responsible for all vandalism to the school bus inflicted by the student, restitution for damages will be required and legal action may be initiated.
13. Students shall not throw any items out the window or doors of a school bus. *This offense is a felony under state law.*
14. If it is necessary to cross the road before loading or after leaving the bus, the students are required to cross 10 feet in FRONT of the bus, after receiving a clear signal from the driver that all approaching traffic has stopped.
15. Students transported by school bus are subject to the Code of Student Conduct, School Board Policy 208, as well as these Standards of Conduct.

**Florida Statutes and the State Board of Education and Administrative Rules clearly assign the responsibility for all disciplinary cases involving transportation of students to the principal, under the direction of the Superintendent.

School bus safety means doing your part: School or school bus: the same rules apply!

1. It means learning and respecting certain rules; on the bus and at the bus stop.
2. Be in control: Always stay in your seat!
 - a. **Don't** lean out the window or stick your arm out.
 - b. **Don't** throw anything on the bus or out the window.
 - c. Keep your backpack or other possessions on your lap or on the floor. **Skateboards are not permitted on the school bus!**
 - d. **Don't** try to open the emergency door unless there really is an emergency.
3. Always be respectful of others. The bus is **not** a place for:
 - a. **Bullying:** It's never okay to bully anyone ever. Examples of bullying include pushing, shoving or calling people names.
 - b. **Sexual harassment:** This means any unwelcome sexual behavior that makes someone feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Sexual harassment is wrong no matter where it happens.
 - c. **Showing affection:** If you have a boyfriend or girlfriend on the bus, it is **not** the place for public display of affection with each other!
 - d. **Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs:** These items are not allowed on the bus at any time.
 - e. **Vandalism:** If you damage anything on the bus, your family will have to pay for it.

Help make the bus ride better for everybody!

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

"SAFE ** DEPENDABLE ** PERSONABLE"

MISSION STATEMENT

Through partnerships and teamwork we will provide a cooperative, responsive and personal approach to ensure safe, effective, and efficient transportation to support instructional programs and services for students, families and the community.



Welcome to

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES



The School Board of Volusia County

Mrs. Diane Smith, Chairman
Ms. Candace Lankford, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Judy Conte
Mr. Stan Schmidt
Dr. Al Williams

Superintendent of Schools

Margaret A. Smith, D. Ed.

Deputy Superintendent

Timothy J. Huth

Director for Student Transportation Services

Greg Akin