



Northview Public Schools

4365 Hunsberger Ave., NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Transportation Department Phone: (616) 361-3480

Administration Building Phone: (616) 363-6861

August 8, 2018

Dear Northview Families,

As we prepare for the 2018-2019 school year, I would like to thank you for your support of the Northview Transportation Department. Our primary goal in the Transportation Department is to provide a safe and efficient source of transportation to and from school for the students of Northview Public Schools. We are responsible for transporting more than 2000 students on a daily basis. Our routes include regular daily routes, transportation to and from other educational programs including KCTC and KIH, field trips, athletic trips and a variety of other runs throughout the day.

Please review the below policies carefully as their are several new details:

- Registration for Transportation

All in-district (living in Northview school district) K-12 students will be required to register to receive busing for the 2018-2019 school year. Whether you rode the bus in the past, or are new to the district, all transportation requests must be submitted online to the Transportation Department. A consistent schedule will be required to maintain a bus stop assignment. Registration forms are accessible via our website, nvps.net/transportation. If you don't have access to a computer, one will be available in the Transportation office. Please call ahead to confirm summer office hours (361-3480). During the school year, busing changes can be made online, and will require 3 days to process. A maximum of 4 busing changes may be made each school year.

- One Stop

Varying student drop off points on a day-to-day basis has created serious safety concerns. As the number of these requests have increased, the safety challenges related with multiple drop off sites have also increased. Many schools in our county have allowed only one bus stop location for several years. While we have attempted to accommodate multiple bus stops for family convenience, the number of these requests has created a risk we can no longer assume. In addition to safety, which is our primary concern, there are also issues of overcrowded buses, misplaced students, cost containment, etc.

With these issues in mind, bus stops for Northview students will be limited beginning with the **2018-2019** school year. Each student may have **one** permanent morning bus stop and **one** permanent afternoon bus stop (may be different than the morning stop). Students are to ride only these assigned buses.

- Ride Along

If a student is to go home with another student, the parent/guardian **MUST** contact the transportation department by phone and submit the request by **10:00 am** on the day of transport. The transportation



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department will determine if space exists on the requested bus. We **will not** transport your student without a phone call from a parent/guardian.

- Out of District Students

Out of District students must register online as well at **nvps.net/transportation**. Reminder that priority is made to in-district resident's first in regards to Northview busing. Requests for transportation for out-of-district students shall be determined **after the start of the school year**. If eligible, and if space exists, we will assign your student to the closest in-district stop available and it will be the parents' responsibility to get the student to and from the bus stop safely. **In regards to students enrolled in child care within Northview, we will not be able to guarantee transportation until we are certain room exists.**

- Elementary Open House

A representative from Transportation will again be at your schools Open House in August. Please visit our information booth as we will be distributing bus tags at this time.

- KCTC/KIH Transportation

We will begin transporting KCTC/KIH students on August 20th. Please visit our website for shuttle schedule.

- Bus Stop Assignments

Bus stop assignments will be made available through **ParentVue**, under the Student Information tab, beginning the week of August 20th. If you are unable to access ParentVue, please contact the school that your student attends to gain access. (If your Smart phone does not show your bus stop, please try using a PC).

We do regret if any of the above changes create an inconvenience for some families. However, in the interest of student safety and the logistics of transporting hundreds of students every day, we feel that it is important to make these changes. We thank you for your understanding as we work together to ensure each student is transported safely. Please visit our web page for our bus rules and regulations along with other information now and throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

Tim Christian
Transportation Director