



Transportation Newsletter – Fall 2009

The **Waterford School District Transportation Department** would like to welcome back students, parents and staff for the 2009/2010 school year. As we begin a new school year, we remind all students and parents to be aware of safety procedures around school buses. The **Safe Bus Riders** program will be conducted shortly after school begins and will provide all elementary aged children with demonstrations and actual practice of bus

safety rules and procedures. In addition, safety tips are included on our web page www.waterford.k12.mi.us that will help refresh your child’s knowledge of bus safety rules.

Bus Stop Information

Post cards containing bus stop and route assignments will be mailed out on **Thursday August 27, 2009**. Route information will be available at all buildings and a **Transportation Phone Bank** will be available the week of **Aug. 31 – Sept. 4, 2009** from **9:00 am to 3:00 pm** daily for any transportation questions.

Route numbers will be displayed on route number signs affixed next to the service doors on all general education buses.

Bus Passes

Students, who wish to ride a bus other than their assigned bus, must have a bus pass. The pass must be authorized through the school office and signed by building personnel. Passes will be allowed based on capacity and may be denied if there is a lack of seating. Students without proper authorization will be **denied** access to ride the bus.

Allergies and Food Restrictions

Minimizing Health Risks for Students with Life Threatening Food Allergies

Food allergies can be life threatening. The risk of accidental exposure to foods can be reduced if we all work together to minimize risk and take measures to provide a safe environment for food-allergic students.

Several buses have signs reminding students that there is **"NO EATING ALLOWED ON THIS BUS"**. These buses transport students with food-allergy restrictions and it is critical they are kept clean. If your student rides one of these buses, they will not be allowed to have food out of their backpack or bring food items onboard, such as treats for parties. These restrictions must be strictly adhered to and we appreciate everyone’s compliance to help minimize risk.

Bus Rules for Students

Look for the student bus rules in the Student Code of Conduct booklets distributed by the buildings or on the district website at www.waterford.k12.mi.us. Please review these rules with your child to ensure everyone’s safety while riding the bus.

Bus Delay Information Available

Parents, students, and staff have available the latest information about Waterford School District transportation delays via a customized software program. **Comcast Channel 22**, the District’s educational cable channel shared with Waterford Township and the district’s website at www.waterford.k12.mi.us, will display messages when a bus is delayed 20 minutes or more due to traffic, inclement weather or mechanical difficulties. The message will contain the bus number, route number, and building name. Residents in the community may view Channel 22 only if they have cable television.

Parents should have a transportation contingency plan in place so students know what to do in the event of delays.

Emergency School Closings

In the event of inclement weather, school closings will be announced on the following: TV Channels: 2, 4, 7 and 22; Radio Stations: WJR 760 AM, WWJ 950 AM, Channel Q95.5 FM as well as the district web site at <http://www.waterford.k12.mi.us>.

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