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Aurora Public Schools
Transportation Route Changes—Exceptional Student Services
Frequently-Asked Questions

Q. Why is APS changing transportation routes for ESS students?

A. Since the start of the 2014-15 school year, APS has experienced a 12 percent increase in transportation requests for ESS students, with more than 90 additional students added to routes this year. This increase has resulted in longer ride times, late arrivals and departures, and inefficient scheduling and routing. After a careful analysis of the current routes, the APS Transportation Department has redesigned these routes to reduce ride times, improve on-time performance and offer more flexibility in adding new students. In addition, the routes are designed so that most students will have the same bus driver and paraprofessional staff for both their morning and afternoon bus rides.

Q. How will this change affect my student?

A. We anticipate that there will be some changes to bus drivers and paraprofessionals assigned to each route. Most students will have similar pick-up and drop-off times, with times remaining within 10 minutes of their original schedule. Certain schools and programs, such as Tennison, Laradon Hall and Serenity, will have minimal or no changes as a result of route changes. Overall, the route changes will shorten the average student ride time and improve on-time performance.

Q. When will the new transportation routes go into effect? When will I receive the new pick-up and drop-off schedule?

A. The new bus routes will go into effect on Monday, Feb. 2, 2015. Your student's bus driver will contact you with the new bus schedule no later than Tuesday, Jan. 27. The process will be identical to the one used at the beginning of the school year.

Q. What are the benefits of the new transportation routes?

A. The new routes will reduce the average student ride time by nearly 10 percent, improve on-time performance and offer more flexibility in adding new students. The Transportation Department is also designing the new routes so that most students have the same bus driver and paraprofessional staff for both their morning and afternoon bus rides (see Question and Answer below).

Q. Will my student have the same bus driver in the morning and afternoon?

A. Approximately 75 percent of students will have the same driver in the morning and afternoon, compared to only 25 percent who currently have the same morning and afternoon drivers. This will improve the driver/student relationship and result in a better ride for all students.

Q. How will this change affect the paraprofessionals who accompany students on the buses?

A. The change will ensure that paraprofessionals ride the same bus every day. Approximately 75 percent of students will have the same paraprofessional for their morning and afternoon bus rides.

Q. How are you sharing this information with my student's school?

A. All schools will be advised of the route changes. Student lists will be sent to each school the week before the routes go into effect to allow school staff to properly prepare for the changes.

Q. Who do I contact if I have questions about the route changes?

A. Transportation staff and supervisors are available Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. If you have questions, call the Transportation scheduling department and dispatch center at 303-326-1986, ext. 28811 or ext. 28812. Supervisors are also available to address any concerns or questions.