

ANCHOR BAY SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

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Frequently Asked Questions of the Transportation Office:

What is the Responsibility of the Transportation Department?

Our goal is to provide safe transportation to our students. Our professional staff includes certified mechanics and certified bus drivers. Our staff of certified mechanics maintains our bus fleet with an overall commitment to safety. Our certified professional bus drivers are highly trained to provide safe transportation for our children and our administrative staff strives to provide prompt courteous service.

How is Bus Eligibility established?

Elementary students living over a ½ mile and Secondary students living over 1 mile from their schools are provided transportation. Students who cross main roadways are also provided transportation. Students may walk up to 1 mile to their bus stop.

Kindergarten students are bused at the least 1 way. If you live in a walking area, your student will be transported one way. Example: AM walking area kindergarten students will be bused home at the noon hour, PM walking area kindergarten students will be bused to school at the noon hour. On the reduced hour day, kindergarten students who live in a walking area will not be transported. All other kindergarten students will follow the grades 1-5 general group stop in their neighborhood on reduced hour days.

All bus stops are determined by home address. If your child will be in the care of a day care provider or individual which is different from the home address, the “ALTERNATE BUS FORM” must be completed with all criteria met that is listed on the form and signed by the parent. The form must then be returned the transportation office. The Alternate Bus Form is available on the Anchor Bay School District website - www.anchorbay.misd.net or by contacting your school office or the Transportation office. No change in bus stop can be made until the form is returned to Transportation Office and our office contacts the parents.

Where is my Child’s Bus Stop?

Bus stops must meet state law requirements.

- Bus stops must be at least 200 ft. apart. This allows the bus to activate their flashers and give motorists time to react and stop.
- Bus stops must be at least 50 feet from a controlled intersection
- The bus be clear and visible for 400 ft. on roadways with a speed limit of 35 mph or greater

As much as possible bus stops are group and centralized locations. Main roadway stops my dictate individual stops with the above criteria being met.

What if My Child wants to use another Bus Stop?

All students are assigned to a bus stop. This is for safety reasons. If your child moves to another stop without permission from the Transportation Office, He/she may be issued a Bus Conduct report for bus and / or bus stop hopping which may result in a loss of bus riding privileges. Please contact our office, if your student is experiencing difficulty at a bus stop

When should my Child be at the Bus Stop?

All students must be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives. Bus routes are timed and assigned to transport each to school in a timely manner.

What if I live in a New Subdivision?

We do not assign bus stops in new subdivisions until the construction is 75% complete. Navigating through subdivisions under constructions become difficult due to contractors and their equipment. Therefore we will place a temporary stop at the entrance of the subdivision.

What if my Child is at a Caregiver?

All bus stops are assigned based on the student's home address. If your child needs to be either picked up, dropped off or both at another location for day care reasons, an "ALTERNATE BUS FORM" must be completed. All criteria must be met as listed and returned to the Transportation office, someone from the Transportation office will contact the parent when approved. A copy is available on our website www.anchorbay.misd.net, your school office, or the Transportation office.

What is the Procedure for Inclement or School Closings?

Once the decisions has been made to close any or all of the schools, the information is called to local television stations channels 2, 4 and 7, along with the district television station of channel 6. We also notify the radio station WWJ 950 AM.

What is Expected of students in regards to their Behavior on the Bus?

Pupil Transportation behavior expectations is available in your children's school handbook. We encourage parents to review the handbook with their children.

What carry on items may Students bring on the Bus?

The Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Division has jurisdiction over what can and cannot be transported. Items that cannot be secured or held in a student's lap can become projectiles on the bus.

Articles left on the bus will remain for the student to obtain. Items of value ex. Purses, phones, electronics etc. will be turned into the Transportation office. Please call our office to obtain.

FYI Facts:

- The National Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) states that school buses are the safest form of transportation for students. School buses comply with more Federal Motor vehicle safety standards(FMVSS) than any other vehicle on the road
- School bus drivers are highly trained professionals that attend continuing education programs designed by the Department of Education. Drivers also comply to random drug and alcohol testing, are subject to electronic fingerprinting, and their driver licenses continually monitored through the Secretary of State.
- Anchor Bay buses are annually inspected by the Michigan State Police
- Anchor Bay transports over 5000 students daily to and from school
- Our bus fleet is comprised of 52 regular and special needs buses
- Anchor Bay Drivers log over 200 hours daily transporting students to and from school
- Our buses traveled over 600,000 miles taking children to and from school, field trips, athletics, band and choir trips
- Our buses consumed over 84,000 gallons of diesel fuel in accomplishing the above

