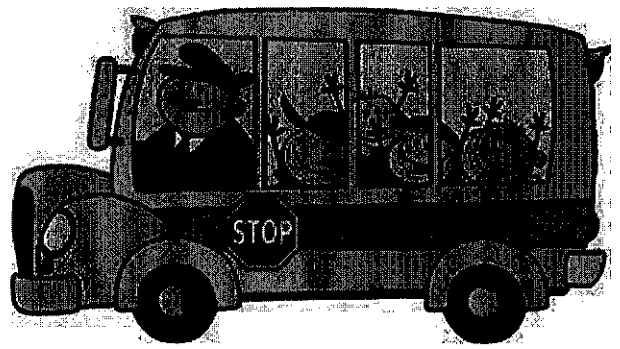


MASON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BUS SAFETY INFORMATION
FOR PARENTS



Riding the school bus is a new and exciting experience for children entering Kindergarten.

This fact sheet, along with the "Learning to Ride the School Bus Safely" colorbook, will help you in preparing your child to ride the school bus.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Kindergarten students are picked up & delivered at assigned bus stops, not necessarily your home.
- If you live in a subdivision, apartment complex, or on a dead end street where a bus is unable to pick up your child, you are responsible to bring your child to the designated bus stop. Only buses carrying special needs students (such as Dean) are permitted in cul-de-sacs.
- Your child will be riding to school with students in Kindergarten through fifth grade. Kindergarteners are seated at the front of the bus and have assigned seating with name tags to reduce confusion.

AT THE BUS STOP

Families are solely responsible for the safety and supervision of their children at the bus stop. Children not met by their parent or guardian will have to be picked up at the MPS Transportation Department. District policy allows for children over age 7 to be released without a parent/guardian at their stop.

SPECIAL SAFETY PROCEDURES

The following safeguards will assist Kindergarten student during the first few weeks of school.

- **Name Tags**

The school will issue name tags for your child's backpack. This tag will name their school, bus number(s) and their address. This ensures children get off the bus at the right location. Please make sure the tag is secured to their backpack (no safety pins) for their safety and transportation accuracy.

If they are picked up/dropped at 2 addresses, the 2nd address & busing/contact information will be on the back of the name tag.

District policy allows only 2 addresses for pick up & drop off.

- **Bus Numbers**

Your child will receive their bus number(s) & stop times a few weeks before school starts. The Bus numbers are found on all sides of the school bus. If they have a substitute bus driver, the bus # will be displayed in the passenger side 2nd window. If your child is assigned 2 different busses, for example Bus "A" picks up and Bus "B" drops off in the afternoon, it will be noted on their name tag.

- **Bus Stops**

During the first few weeks of school, bus drivers will be helping the children learn where their bus stop is located by announcing when they are close to their stop and using reminder cues (e.g. "first is Charlie's house, then Kate's house"). Your child is expected to raise their hand when their name is called by their bus driver.

Kindergarteners **MUST** have their parent/guardian available at the stop to receive them, which is our district policy.

- **Safety**

Your child will be learning school bus safety during the first few weeks of school. The bus drivers will spend time teaching them how ride safely. School buses are an extension of school. School behavior is expected at all times on the bus.

Please review the coloring/activity "Learning to Ride the School Bus Safely" with your child to help reinforce safety and review expectations.

Due to allergies, Covid 19 and choking concerns, no food/drinks shall be consumed while riding on the bus.

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