



Eastchester Union Free School District

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**Waverly Kindergarten Bus Orientation
August 27, 2019**

Welcome new Waverly Parents and Students!

In New York State 2.3 million students transported to school each day by a school bus. There are 50,000 school bus drivers and bus attendant/monitors transporting students in New York. Eastchester UFSD transports around 2,450 students to and from school each day.

Here are some important points for transportation at Eastchester Schools:

1. In the beginning of the school year, buses will take longer to get to and from school. Please make sure to have your child outside waiting for the bus 5 minutes before the scheduled pick up time.
2. If your child is attending a before or after school child care facility or program or a private daycare, transportation must be requested every year. The form for requests can be found on the District website.
3. All changes for dismissal should be submitted to Waverly on a change of dismissal form by 11:00 AM via fax at (914) 779-0237. Parents should follow up with a phone call to make sure the fax was received. Phone calls to make changes will only be accepted in case of emergency.
4. Parents must meet students at the bus stop in afternoon. If you cannot meet the school bus, an adult at least 18 years old or old must meet your child. Attached to this packet is a form to list the name or names of adult who you are authorizing to take your child from school or the bus stop. This person must have a photo identification to present in order to take your child.
5. Waverly buses will have bus signs in the bus windows to identify the bus and have bus monitors. The school bus numbers are 14-19, Van 3 and Van 4.
6. The bus monitors should be getting on and off the bus at bus stops, assisting children in loading and unloading and safe crossing. If your child must cross and you are crossing with them, please allow the school bus driver to safely cross you. They will give you a signal when it is safe to cross the street.
7. The bus driver and monitor are not authorized to change bus stops, direction of travel or times without the permission on the transportation department. If there is a concern with a bus stop location please contact the transportation department.

Please visit the district's transportation page at <https://district.eastchesterschools.org/m2/mod/dataform/view.php?d=1&view=1&eids=99&ret=9>. You will be able to find transportation forms and contact information.

Have a happy and healthy school year!

At the Bus Stop

Parents of children must be present to receive their child at the bus stop. If a parent is unable to meet his/her child, then the Transportation Department should have the name of an authorized adult who may receive the child from the bus.

Students must be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the designated pick up time. School buses are authorized to pick up students within 5 minutes before the assigned pick up time. The bus driver is not authorized to sound the horn in order to alert parents and students of the bus' arrival. **Students should stand away from the road in an orderly manner and only move to board the bus once the bus has stopped completely and has red lights and stop signs displayed to stop traffic.**

If students must cross the street to get on or off the bus, they must follow the driver's safe crossing instructions. Students should look both ways before exiting the bus at the last step. They should walk far enough out in front of the bus that they can see the driver (10 feet). They must wait until the driver tells them it is safe to cross by displaying the universal crossing signal. It is important to always follow the school bus driver's directions when crossing. **Parents or guardians at the bus stop must also cross the street following the bus driver's signal and the safe crossing procedures.**

Bus stops are generally established at central pickup points to pick up multiple students, usually at intersecting streets. Buses will not drive down dead end or loop streets. Door to door bus service will not be permitted unless approved by the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education.

School Bus Rider Conduct

Parents and guardians play a vital role in the safe operation of the Transportation Department in many ways. Parents should be aware of and reinforce the following safety messages with their children:

- Explain the importance of good behavior on the bus – students should not stand while the bus is in motion, eat or drink on the bus and generally should use quiet voices on the school bus.
- Students may not fight, smoke, or throw objects around or out of the school bus. Students should observe the same behavior on the bus as they would in the classroom.
 - Students should follow the directives of the school bus driver.
- Students may only board their assigned bus and get on and off at their assigned bus stop. If a student misses their stop they should inform the driver so the driver can return to their stop.
- Students should not board the school bus with large items. Large school projects, packages or large instruments should be transported to school by parents.

- Objects should be secured safely in a back pack so students do not drop any items while loading or unloading from the school bus.
 - Students are encouraged to wear their lap belts on the school bus.
 - The school bus driver is authorized to assign seats if warranted.
- **Riding the school bus is a privilege. There are consequences for unsafe and inappropriate behavior on the bus. Everyone is entitled to a safe and pleasant ride on the school bus.**

Common Transportation Questions and Answers

Q. What should I do if my child's bus is running late?

A. Buses may run late for a number of reasons. If the bus is running late by 10 minutes or more please contact the Transportation Department at (914) 793-6130, ext. 4444.

Q. What should I do if my child missed the bus?

A. Students must be at the AM bus stop 5 minutes before the scheduled stop time and must be present at the bus stop when the bus gets there. If your child missed the bus because they were not at the bus stop on time the bus will not come back and you will be responsible to transport your child to school. If the bus did not arrive for pick up, please contact the Transportation Department at (914) 793-6130, ext. 4444.

Q. What if my child needs to stay after school?

A. Late buses are provided for students in Grades 6-12 at EHS/EMS. Students who need to stay after school must obtain a late bus pass from the school office. There are two late buses that leave the High School/Middle School at approximately 3:40 PM.

