

Town of Bedford

97 McMahon Road

Bedfordps.org

Superintendent Update

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August 10, 2021

Hello Bedford School Community,

I hope the summer finds you and your family healthy and relaxed.

I am writing to you with a brief update on our expectations for **school bus transportation** in the upcoming **2021-22 school year**. First, we very much hope that families will take advantage of bus transportation now that capacity limits have returned to normal on school buses. Excellent bus ridership has always been a hallmark of our Bedford system, and brings benefits of reduced congestion at schools and on our roads.

Importantly, many health and safety measures will remain in place on school buses. As has been and is currently the case with all types of public transportation, masks will continue to be required on school buses for students and drivers. This is by federal public health order, and is specified in <u>DESE's guidance, released July 30, 2021</u>. The district also will continue the practice of maximum ventilation and fresh air, and will continue to operate buses with windows partially open.

Further, we will continue the practice of **bus registration for Davis and Lane students**. Registration and seat assignments for our younger students will serve us in managing health protocols and will maintain the calm and positive environment on the bus that developed in the past year. <u>K-5 Bus Registration is now available online</u>.

Davis and Lane families should visit our <u>Transportation website</u> as soon as you can - we very much appreciate K-5 registration as early as possible to ensure a smooth start of the school year. Boston Metco Families can also register through the Metco office.

Bus riding at JGMS and BHS will return to open seating due to vaccination access for this age group. JGMS and BHS families will find bus routes and stops posted online approximately one week before school starts.

Thank you for your attention and enjoy the rest of this summer.

Best wishes,

Philip Conrad Superintendent