



Grant Parish School Board

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TO: Parents

RE: COVID Bus Routing and Capacity

The following information is current as of August 3, 2020. The following bus transportation is based on the Strong Start 2020 School Reopening Guidance from the Louisiana Department of Education found at <https://louisianabelieves.com/resources/strong-start-2020>. Below is how the Grant Parish School Board will conduct bus operations until further guidance is received. Our regular education buses are rated to carry 71 passengers with 24 available seats. Our special education buses are rated to carry 53 passengers but have varying bus seat configurations. Most have roughly 13 seats.

Phase 1: Bus capacity is limited to 25% capacity and students seated every other seat. Our procedure will be one student per seat, but members of the same household could sit together. We would be able to utilize 12 seats on the regular education bus and transport 12 students. The most students that we could carry would be 17 per load if there were additional household riders.

Phase 2: Bus capacity is limited to 50% capacity. Our procedure will be one student per seat, but members of the same household could sit together. We could transport 24 students per load, but could have up to 35 riders if households have multiple riders.

Phase 3: Bus capacity is limited to 75% capacity. Our procedure will be one student per seat, but members of the same household could sit together. We could transport 24 students per load, but could have up to 53 riders if households have multiple riders.

There is the possibility that some buses will have to make two trips in order to transport their assigned riders based on capacity limits set forth by the LDOE. Delivery and pickup times could vary.

There is the possibility that a route could be cancelled for a particular day if we do not have a bus driver available. Please ensure that your school has accurate contact phone numbers in the JPams system so that Jtexts can be sent out if we have to cancel a route. In addition, please sign up with your bus driver to receive a Remind101 text message about route changes. We will make every effort to not cancel a route, but we may have to do so if we experience driver shortages. Also, we will not be able to accommodate parent requests for students to ride home with friends due to bus capacity restrictions.

Please be patient during the school year. I know these times are stressful on you trying to juggle family and work responsibilities while adjusting to COVID-19 and the impact it has had on our lives. Our Grant Parish community is resilient and we will work through these uncertain times to the best of our ability.

We will be offering another bus driver training course on October 12-16, 2020. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact me at tmelton@gpsb.org or call at 627-3274.

Thanks,

Ty Melton 8-3-2020

Ty Melton
Transportation Manager