

Policy information can be found on the Northfield Schools website at:

<https://northfieldschools.org/about/school-board/policies>

### **BENJAMIN BUS, INC.**

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*We take great care with the most precious cargo in the world, bringing your children safely to and from school is the most important thing we do everyday. It is also the most rewarding...you have wonderful children!*



### **SCHOOL BUS RULES**

1. Follow drivers directions.
2. Treat all people with respect
3. Stay seated; don't move from one seat to another. Don't block the aisle. Share the bus seat with others.
4. Keep head, arms, and hands inside the bus. Windows can only be opened half-way.
5. Talk quietly, no teasing, harassing, profanity, fighting or horseplay.
6. Don't throw any objects in or outside of the bus. No spitting.
7. No weapons, dangerous objects, animals, insects or pets on the bus.
8. No eating or drinking on the bus.
9. No tobacco, drugs, lighters, matches or aerosols on the bus.

### **PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

District behavior and discipline policies apply to the school bus just as they do in the classroom. Riding the school bus is a privilege and a student's eligibility to ride the bus may be revoked for violation of the school's safety or conduct policies. It's the parents responsibility to make sure their students understand and follow the policies. Ignorance of the rules is not an excuse. Students violating bus rules may forfeit bus riding privileges.

Help your child learn their bus numbers

Please have your students to their assigned bus stops (5) minutes prior to the assigned pick up times.

### **LOST AND FOUND**

Please call Benjamin Bus if your child has left an item on the bus. As any items found on the bus are turned into the office.



## **SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION GUIDE**

*for Parents*



In this brochure you will find policy information, criteria used when planning bus routes, expectations for parents and answers to frequently asked questions.



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### WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSPORTATION?

Elementary students living approximately 3/4 mile or more from school are eligible for bus service. Middle and High School students living approximately one (1) or more miles from school are eligible for bus service. Walk boundaries are determined by measuring the distance, in the most direct route, from the home of the student to the nearest property line of their school of attendance.

District policy provides for students who are residents of other districts who open enroll to a Northfield district 659 school to be transported on established routes in the district. Students who live outside the district and attend charter, private or parochial schools located in the Northfield district are not eligible for bus transportation services provided by ISD 659.

Please contact Benjamin Bus for more information on safe bus stops that are used for this purpose and any questions that you may have.

Please read through this brochure carefully as it will answer your questions and provide information about your responsibilities as a parent.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### HOW WILL I KNOW WHICH BUS MY CHILDREN WILL RIDE?

~ Families should receive school bus information cards which are mailed in late August.

### CAN STUDENTS RIDE A DIFFERENT BUS OR GET OFF AT OTHER THAN ASSIGNED STOPS?

~ **NO**, due to school district policy students must ride assigned buses and get off at assigned stops!

### HOW ARE BUS STOPS DETERMINED?

~We select the safest places to load and unload students. Generally, neighborhood bus stops are centrally located for all students.

### WHICH STUDENTS NEED TO REGISTER FOR TRANSPORTATION?

~All eligible students must register for transportation. If your student does not need transportation please complete the Bus registration form and select "No transportation needed".

### HOW DO I REGISTER MY STUDENT?

~Fill out the Bus Registration Form that can be obtained from your students school, the Northfield Public Schools' website or Benjamin Bus. Your student will not be added to a route unless a form is filled out and turned in to Benjamin Bus.

### MY STUDENT GOES TO DAYCARE, HOW DO I ARRANGE BUSING?

~Complete a Bus Registration Form, available at your school office, the school's website or at Benjamin Bus.

~The request must be consistent everyday and the daycare must be located in the same attendance area as the school your student will attend. Busing is only available to students/families if their Bus Registration Form has been filled out and the daycare provider information is accurate and up-to-date.

~This must be done each year.

### I CAN'T SEE THE BUS STOP FROM MY HOUSE.

~Visibility from the home to the bus stop is not part of the criteria when establishing bus stops. If a parent/guardian is concerned about watching their student at the bus stop, they need to walk with them to the stop.

### WHY DO SOME STUDENTS HAVE TO CROSS THE STREET TO BOARD THE SCHOOL BUS?

~With the large number of streets and bus stops in our school district, it is necessary for some students to cross the street to board the bus.

### WHAT TIME SHOULD WE BE AT THE BUS STOP?

~Always be at your bus stop (5) minutes early. By being at your stop early you decrease the likelihood of missing the bus.

### CAN MY STUDENT RIDE HOME WITH A FRIEND ?

~**NO**, students can only be picked up and dropped off at their assigned bus stop.

~In the case of a serious family emergency, such as the death or unexpected hospitalization of a family member, please contact Benjamin Bus as soon as possible.

~If a student is staying at a different location for one week or more, contact Benjamin Bus to see if arrangements can be made. There are no exceptions, it must be for at least one week or longer. No new stops will be added for temporary address changes.

### THE BUS DRIVES RIGHT PAST MY HOUSE.

~Buses drive by many homes on their routes, and we cannot stop at every students home. This not only increases the amount of time all students spend on the bus it can create dangerous conditions due to other motorists impatience.

### WE LIVE IN A CUL-DE-SAC. WILL THE BUS COME DOWN OUR STREET?

~**NO**, only special education students are transported down cul-de-sacs.