



## Transportation Plan & Policies

### Transportation

Busing Students who ride the bus in the morning will be dropped off at school by 8:15 am. Students are escorted to the cafeteria for breakfast and morning meeting. Students are subsequently escorted to class for instruction, which begins promptly at 8:30am. Students who ride the bus in the afternoon have boarded the bus by 3:55 and are en route to designated bus stops by 4:00pm. Parents should be at the bus stop no less than 10 minutes prior to the established drop-off time each day. Parents have the option of picking up and/or dropping off their student each day. Busing is available to all of our students, but it is at the parent's discretion. Parents are asked to tell the school which method of transport the family prefers, either busing or parent pick-up/drop-off. If a parent wishes to switch from one method to the other, we can only accommodate three (3) switches in a school year, and the school must be given advanced notice (a minimum phone call by noon). Car Riders and Walkers If parents choose to drop-off their child in the morning, we strongly urge you to have them at school no later than 8:15 am, if breakfast is not required. Students who eat breakfast must be at school by 8:00am. Any student who arrives at or after 8:30 is considered tardy, and the parent must sign the child in at the front office. Parents who opt to drive their child back and forth exclusively need only tell the school once, and we will hold your child for pick-up each afternoon. Parents can begin picking up students no earlier than 4:00 pm, and parents are strongly urged to pick-up their child no later than 4:15 pm. The school day officially ends at 4:00, and all students must be off campus no later than 4:15pm.

### School Bus Expectations and Conduct

Noble Minds provides free transportation to all students who live more than one mile from the school site. Transportation may consist of yellow school bus, Regional Transit Authority (RTA) bus, or other means. Transportation to Noble Minds will be provided subject to eligibility and fee guidelines. Students must comply with the Noble Minds behavior expectations while traveling on a school bus to and from their homes or school-sponsored activities. If a student commits an infraction covered in the Student and Family Handbook on a school bus or at the school bus stop, the school bus driver/monitor will notify the principal who will complete an investigation and documentation as needed. Based on the severity of the consequence, the principal's discretion for consequences include regular school-based consequences, as well as a bus break and/or assigned seating. If a child has to take a break from the bus, it is then the parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure that the child gets to school on time. Noble Minds will also provide RTA fare for students who lose bus privileges. If a student with a disability needs a bus break, the school is responsible for offering an alternative form of transportation to and from school.

### Bus Stop Pick-Up Expectations



# NOBLE MINDS

It is mandatory that students in kindergarten through fourth grade are assisted by a parent when boarding the bus in the morning and exiting the bus in the afternoon. Parents are required to physically assist the child getting on and off the bus. This means being at the bus stop awaiting the bus's doors to open. We expect parents to be at the bus stop at least 10 minutes in advance of the bus's scheduled arrival time, and wait patiently for the bus to arrive, even 10 minutes are longer after the scheduled time. Bus schedules are estimates that are subject to traffic conditions, number of students, weather, street conditions and other factors beyond drivers' control. Though bus routes and their schedules will become more predictable during the school year, unexpected changes can happen at any time that cause a bus to either be earlier or later. Again, we expect each parent (or responsible designee) to be present at the bus stop at least 10 minutes prior to the bus's scheduled arrival time, patiently wait for the bus's arrival even if the bus runs 10 minutes or more late, and assist the child with getting on and getting off the bus.

## **Bus Policies**

We are pleased to be able to provide free transportation to our families. We recognize that many of our families have limitations that prevent them from easily transporting a child to and from school. Considering the volume of students who ride the bus and the families who rely on transportation, we must strictly follow established policies. Our first priority is always the safety of the kids entrusted to us. Should we find that a student's or family's behaviors conflict with the bus policies we will be unable to continue to offer busing to that family. In addition to student behavior and parent expectations discussed in the few preceding paragraphs, the following policies will help ensure that the busing experience is an efficient, effective and safe one for all of our students and families.

1. Students must be well behaved when on the bus, and students must follow the instructions of the bus driver and bus monitor.
2. Student behavior infractions will be reported to the school by the bus driver. We will contact the parent regarding behavioral infractions and the consequences of such behavior. Please note that serious infractions and repeated minor infractions can result in loss of the privilege of busing.
3. Parents must be at the bus stop to assist their child to board the bus in the morning and exit the bus in the afternoon. When the bus pulls up, the parent or designated individual must already be standing at the bus stop.
4. Students should never be left alone at the bus stop in the mornings. Parents must wait at the stop with the child and assist the child as s/he climbs onto the bus.
5. If tardiness prevents a child from boarding the bus, it is the responsibility of the parent to find alternative means of ensuring that the student makes it to school and on time.



# NOBLE MINDS

6. Students will never be dropped off at a bus stop where a parent is not at the bus's door, awaiting to assist the student as s/he exits the bus. The student will be returned to the school and we will attempt to contact the parent for up to an hour before contacting the local department of children and family services.

7. If ever a parent realizes that they will be unable to collect their child from the bus at the scheduled time, the parent should call the transportation parent line. You can make alternative arrangements to collect your child with the bus driver through the dispatcher.

8. Whenever a parent or other designee is not present at the bus stop when the bus arrives, the bus driver will complete and submit a report of the incident to the school. Being tardy to or absent from the bus stop is an infraction of our bus policy and creates safety issues. We will try to work with parents to solve issues that prevent the timely receipt of students. Please note that multiple reports of being unavailable to receive your student will result in the loss of bus privileges.

## **Transportation Contact Information**

### **Diggs Transportation**

**P: 504.481.2877**