

2021-22 Bus Transportation Guidelines

The following is an outline of SHPA's bus service transportation guidelines. These guidelines assist the school in planning and implementation of safe, efficient, and convenient bus routes for our families.

*For the 2021 – 2022 school year the annual fee for transportation service is **\$275 per child** and a **\$525 cap per family**, with eligible families charged on a sliding scale. **This fee is non-refundable.** Busing comprises a significant portion of our operating budget and we are pleased to provide quality service at a reasonable cost.*

The bus transportation fee is applicable to all families who meet any of the following criteria:

- 1) Do not live in either Bloomington or Richfield (e.g., reside in Burnsville, Minneapolis, Edina, etc.)
 - 2) Do not attend campus of the city in which they live (i.e., live in Bloomington, but attend the Richfield campus or vice-versa; families with children at both campuses are eligible to use the transition bus*
 - 3) Live fewer than two miles from the campus they attend (please see MDE FAQ sheet linked below)
- *Transports middle school students with elementary siblings at Bloomington to Richfield and back

In order to be placed on a bus route and guaranteed service at the start of the 2021-22 school year, all families (new and returning), **must complete an online bus application form during the enrollment period from May 17th - June 18th.** All families must make an online payment during the application enrollment period and pay any outstanding balance they may have from the 2020-21 school year at that time. **Late registrants will not receive a stop until third week of the school year after initial routes have been successfully established.** Single change requests may be submitted to the transportation coordinators by October 8th and changes to route stops or times will be considered only for potential safety concerns and not for convenience in timing or location.

Busing Facts and Timeline

- We have 17 buses that transport more than 600 students from 500 families each school day
 - Safety will always be the first and foremost objective of our bus transportation service
 - The goal for route times will be approximately one hour, weather and traffic permitting
 - K – 8th grade students who do not live in Bloomington or Richfield will be serviced by hub stops
 - Bloomington/Richfield Kindergarten students will receive stops at the corner of their street
 - Bloomington/Richfield 1st-5th grade students will have stops approximately 4 blocks from their house
 - Bloomington/Richfield 6-8th grade students will have stops approximately 6 blocks from their house
 - Parents of K-5th grade students are expected to be present at the bus stop for pickup/drop-off
 - Students must be registered to ride the bus and receive only one a.m. and one p.m. stop
 - Bus drivers are entrusted with the responsibility of managing and referring student behavior
 - Each campuses bus service may differ in some respects based upon contracts and providers
 - Students are only allowed to ride the bus to which they have been assigned (No Exceptions)
- May 17: Busing application window opens up and building of initial routes begins
 - June 18: Bus Application Deadline
 - August 27: Final routes will be shared with families, if not before this time
 - October 8: Change Request Deadline

For additional information, please reference the MDE FAQ Sheet (<https://sevenhillspreparatoryacademy.org/mde-faq-transportation-sheet/>) or the following district boundary map: <http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/maps/SchoolDistricts/>. If you have further questions, contact Barb Mattson (Bloomington Campus) at bmattson@shpamn.org or Monica Wood (Richfield Campus) at mwood@shpamn.org. Busing is a privilege, not a right, and we work hard in cooperation with our transportation partners to provide safe, efficient, quality service at an affordable rate to our families