

## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Forest Hills Schools  
7600 Forest Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45255



Dear Kindergarten Parent:

Many of you will be putting your child on the school bus for the first time when school begins in August. It is important for you to feel comfortable with the staff responsible for providing safe transportation for your child to and from school. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some basic information which may help you to be more comfortable when your child boards the school bus for the first time.

All school bus drivers in Ohio must possess a commercial driver's license, and must also be certified as a school bus driver by the Ohio Department of Education. This certification must be renewed every six years. The drivers receive in-service training each year to help them improve and maintain their driving skills. All school bus drivers are required to pass a physical examination each year which is performed by a district appointed physician. Driving records for each driver are obtained and examined quarterly. It is our goal to provide the safest drivers possible to be responsible for transporting your child.

The school district owns and maintains the school buses used for transporting your child. The buses are inspected by the Ohio State Highway Patrol three times each year. One of the inspections is performed during the summer months and is very detailed. The other two inspections occur unannounced during the school year. The district employs three full-time mechanics with many years of experience. We make every effort to insure your child is being transported on the safest school buses possible.

There are some things you need to know about transportation of kindergarten students:

1. While we make every effort possible to provide stops close to your home, it may not be possible to have a stop at your house.
2. It is necessary for a parent or other responsible party to be at the bus stop to receive your kindergarten student. It is also important to make sure your child has an alternate place to go in case you are not home.
3. It may be necessary for your child to cross the road to board the school bus. The driver will explain to your child how to cross the road on their signal. Please do not prompt your child to cross the road before the driver signals for them to do so.
4. Each child will be assigned a "Designated Place of Safety" to wait for the bus, and to go to when they get off the bus. This designated place of safety is required by Ohio Revised Code.
5. Your school of attendance will have designated A.M. and P.M. areas for class assignment. Additionally, if your child is transported to a daycare or baby sitter, we will only transport to daycares or baby sitters within the attendance area to which your child is assigned.
6. Please be aware, it is not unusual for the bus drivers to ask for identification of a person receiving children at the bus stop. Please cooperate with this request as it is for the protection of your child.

For your convenience, rules for you and your child to follow are on the reverse side of this letter. You will receive additional information as the beginning of the school year approaches. If you have any questions please feel free to contact myself [richard.porter@foresthills.edu](mailto:richard.porter@foresthills.edu), or Assistant Transportation Supervisor, Bev Wetterer [beverly.wetterer@foresthills.edu](mailto:beverly.wetterer@foresthills.edu). You are also welcome to contact our office at 231-3335 if you are not able to contact us via email.

Sincerely,

Richard A Porter  
Transportation Supervisor