## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

## HANDBOOK

## FOR

# SCHOOL SITES 



One of OUSD's new electric school buses

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# INTRODUCTION FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION 

July 22, 2021
To: Principals \& Administrative Staff
From: Christina Celeste-Russo, Director of Transportation
Subject:Transportation Handbook for School Sites
Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year. This handbook was designed to assist you with doing business with the Transportation Department. If you cannot find what you are looking for in this handbook, please contact us.

In addition to home-to-school/school-to-home transportation for students, we also provide field/sport/activity trip services. You can request field/sport/activity trips on-line.

Our trip fees are:
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Monday thru Friday } & \$ 55.00 \text { per hour with a two (2) hour minimum } \\ \text { Sat, Sun and Holidays } & \$ 65.00 \text { per hour with a four (4) hour minimum (includes Grad night) }\end{array}$
OUSD school buses are the most economical way for your school to travel and our District bus drivers consider themselves part of your school's team while providing you with excellent service.

Nevertheless, if you prefer a private charter bus to a District school bus for your trip, Jill Bender, our Field Trip Dispatcher, will schedule it with a Transportation Department approved charter company who is properly insured. There is an additional $\$ 50.00$ per trip charge for this service. The day of the chartered trip, the Transportation Department may send a State Certified Driver Instructor to make certain the charter bus passes a safety inspection and the bus driver has the proper credentials. Jill also provides the OUSD Security Department with a list of all after hours/weekend/holiday trips so students are always accounted for. This would also apply to trips/activities in limousines.

Please encourage your school's qualifying students to ride our school buses. They qualify based on the distance they live from your school site. Remember, school bus transportation remains THE safest mode of ground transportation, and increased ridership on the bus will help with traffic flow in your school's parking lot.

Finally, the Transportation Department is available to speak to your parent groups, and our Training Department Team can come to your school and give a safety presentation to your students; Pre-K and Kinder students love this! If you would like to meet with staff members of the Transportation Team, please contact us. In addition, we would love to have you visit us at our site at MOT on Collins Avenue; let us know when you can come over.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

## DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



MANAGEMENT

## CLASSIFIED

## STAFF - AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY \& CONTACT INFO

| Management Staff | Responsibilities | Contact Information |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Christina Celeste-Russo <br> Director of Transportation and Vehicle Maintenance Services | Oversees the Transportation and Vehicle Maintenance Departments | 714-997-6244 <br> cceleste@orangeusd.org |
| Omar Dena <br> Transportation Supervisor | Supervises Reg. Ed. employees; Oversees Safety \& Training; Checks Bus Stops; Community Interaction; Employee Hiring; Discipline; etc. | 714-997-6244 <br> odena@orangeusd.org |
| Rachel Vazquez <br> Transportation Supervisor | Supervises Sp. Ed. employees; Oversees Dispatch; Checks Bus Stops; Community Interaction; Employee Hiring; Discipline; etc. | 714-997-6244 <br> rvazquez@orangeusd.org |
| Mario Garcia <br> Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor | Bus Garage; Vehicle Maintenance; BIT Program; Smog Program; Ordering; Billing; Employee Hiring; Discipline ; etc. | 714-997-6196 mogarcia@orangeusd.org |
| Sharon Breland <br> Senior Router/Dispatcher | Schedules; Routes Reg. Ed.; Interacts with Drivers | \|714-997-6357 <br> sbreland@orangeusd.org |
| Alejandra (Alley) Avila Router / Dispatcher | Schedules; Assists Sp. Ed.; Interacts with Drivers | \|714-997-6358 <br> aavila@orangeusd.org |
| Jill Bender Router / Dispatcher | Schedules; Field Trips; Interacts with Drivers | 714-997-6357 <br> jbender@orangeusd.org |
| Erik Marquez <br> Router / Dispatcher | Schedules; Routes Sp. Ed.; Interacts with Drivers | \|714-997-6358 <br> emarquez@orangeusd.org |
| Ula Justus Training Supervisor | Supervises Safety \& Training; Evacuation Drills; Accidents; Driver Records | 714-516-2742 <br> ujustus@orangeusd.org |
| Classified Staff |  |  |
| Lola Reynoso <br> Administrative Secretary | Secretary to Director: Purchase Orders; Billing | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 714-997-6244 \\ \text { Iolar@orangeusd.org } \end{array}$ |
| Kim Ayers <br> Senior Account Clerk | Supervises Bus Pass Office; Bus Pass Banking; Refunds; Correspondence; Payroll | 714-538-8295 kayers@orangeusd.org |
| Crystal Johnson Senior Staff Clerk | Bus Passes; Emergency Bus Passes; Customer Service | \|714-538-8295 <br> crystal.johnson@orangeusd.org |
| Robert Garrido, Jr. <br> Staff/School Clerk | Assists in the Dispatch Office with Routing | 714-997-6358 <br> rgarridoj@orangeusd.org |
| Danny Kim <br> Vehicle Maintenance Foreman | Assists the Vehicle Maint. Supervisor; Assists in monitoring preventive maintenance; Shop Safety | 714-628-5313 <br> dkim@orangeusd.org |
| Maricruz Garcia Veh. Maint. Services Staff Assist. | Assists the Vehicle Maint. Supervisor; parts; receiving; correspondence; etc. | 714-628-5313 <br> maricruz.garcia@orangeusd.org |

## TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PLAN - The Five Requirements of Ed. Code 39831.3

1. Determining if pupils require escort to cross a highway or private road upon which the school bus is stopped.
a. Pupils loading/unloading at their bus stop for home-to-school/school-to-home transportation.
i. Transportation Department leadership and/or bus pass office staff will determine if a pupil requires escort based on (1) the pupil's address, (2) the parent/guardian chosen bus stop, and (3) VC 22112.
b. Pupils loading/unloading during school activity trips.
i. The school bus driver will determine if students require escort per VC 22112.
2. Procedures for pupils to follow as they board and exit the appropriate school bus at the pupil's school bus stop.
a. Boarding the school bus.
i. Pupils will not move toward the bus until the entrance door opens.

- Should the driver be required to escort pupils, other pupils will not move toward the bus until directed by the driver.
ii. Pupils will enter the bus in an orderly manner.
iii. Pupils will use the handrail(s) as they ascend the bus step well.
iv. Pupils will show/scan their bus pass.
v. Pupils will go directly to their seats.
vi. Pupils will sit facing forward with their legs in front of them.
vii. Pupils will use child safety restraint systems (CSRS)/seatbelts if the bus is equipped.
- Pupils will request bus driver assistance for proper use, if necessary.
- The bus driver assists per pupils' needs.
b. Exiting the school bus.
i. Pupils will remain properly seated until the bus comes to a complete stop and the door is opened.
ii. Pupils will remove and properly place CSRS/seatbelts (with driver assistance, if necessary).
iii. Pupils will move toward the front of the bus in an orderly manner.
iv. Should the bus driver be unaware - pupils requiring escort will notify the driver.
v. Pupils will use the handrail(s) as they descend the bus step well.
vi. Upon exiting the bus, pupils will immediately move out of the "Danger Zone" to the right front, right, or right rear of the bus, except that pupils requiring escort will follow the bus driver's instruction to cross the highway or private road.
vii. Pupils shall not attempt to return to the bus without first getting the attention of the bus driver.

3. Procedures for boarding and exiting a school bus at a school or other trip destination.
a. Boarding the school bus.
i. Pupils will enter the bus in an orderly manner.
ii. Pupils will use the handrail(s) as they ascend the bus step well.
iii. Pupils will show/scan their bus pass unless boarding for an activity trip.
iv. Pupils will go directly to their seats.
v. Pupils will sit facing forward with their legs in front of them.
vi. Pupils will use child safety restraint systems (CSRS)/seatbelts if the bus is equipped.
vii. Pupils will request bus driver assistance for proper use, if necessary.
viii. Bus driver assists per pupils' needs.
b. Exiting the school bus.
i. Pupils will remain properly seated until the bus comes to a complete stop and the door is opened.
ii. Pupils will remove and properly place CSRS/seatbelts (with driver assistance, if necessary).
iii. Pupils will move toward the front of the bus in an orderly manner.
iv. Pupils will use the handrail(s) as they descend the bus step well.
v. Upon exiting the bus, pupils will immediately move out of the bus "Danger Zone" to the right front, right, or right rear of the bus, except that pupils requiring escort will follow the bus driver's instructions to cross the highway or private road.
4. Procedures to ensure that a pupil is not left unattended on a school bus, school pupil activity bus, or youth bus.
a. Prior to leaving the immediate vicinity of a school bus, school pupil activity bus, or youth bus; the driver will walk the entire length of the bus systematically checking the interior of the bus, including under the seats and any compartments large enough to contain a pupil, before exiting the bus.
i. Paragraph (4)(a) does not apply to a school bus driver engaged in escorting students.
5. Procedures and standards for designating an adult chaperone, other than the driver, to accompany pupils on a school pupil activity (SPAB) bus.
a. District and/or school site administrators shall designate District employees and/or nonDistrict employees as adult chaperones to accompany pupils on a SPAB bus.
b. Standards for non-District employee adult chaperones:
i. Non-District employees serving as adult chaperones on a SPAB bus must meet qualifications for a Volunteer Assistant and have a Volunteer Assistance Request form on file with the District.

## FIELD / SPORT / ACTIVITY TRIP INFORMATION

Field/Sport/Activity Trip Transportation Charges
$\$ 55.00$ per hour (2 hr. minimum, Monday thru Friday)
\$65.00 per hour (4 hr. minimum, Saturday, Sunday \& Holidays) (Including Grad Nights)

## Internet Based Trip Requests

Field, sport, and activity trip requests can be completed online through the TransTraks system. If you need a log in name and password to use this system, please contact Jill Bender to set this up. If you are having trouble using the system and she is not available, fill-out the Trip Request / Billing Information form available in the OUSD staff portal, then send it via email or mail.

You can log into TransTraks to see your upcoming trips. If you do not see a trip you have requested on the list, please call.

## Placing a Request

It is never too early to send in your request. Trips are booked on a first come-first served basis. It is important to remember there are "busy seasons" in Transportation and our department can be booked solid months in advance.

District policy states we must receive field/sport/activity trip requests at least 10 working days in advance. If we do not receive trip requests in this time frame, there is no guarantee we will be able to accommodate your request.

## Trip Request Information

State the correct number of passengers for your trip - include students, teachers, AND other adults.
Correct times for your trip are crucial. If you are not sure how long it takes to get somewhere (consider time of day, traffic, etc), call for assistance.
"Leave school" and/or "depart destination" times, are expected to be kept. When they are not, it can negatively impact other trips and/or home-to-school routes. Should your group want to stay at a destination a little longer, contact Dispatch as soon as possible. We will try to work with you; however, this may not always be possible.

All fees associated with the trip, such as parking, toll road, etc., are the responsibility of the group leader. Fees are not paid by the bus driver.

Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus at any time.
If your group leaves a mess on the bus, you will be charged for the time it takes to clean the mess.

## Outdoor Ed. / Science School

We limit the passenger count per bus to 40 in order to accommodate passengers and luggage.
Contact us to discuss special accommodations or circumstances.
Luggage - maximum weight for a piece of luggage is 40 lbs .
(cont. FIELD / SPORT / ACTIVITY TRIP INFORMATION)

## Sports Trips

When filling out the trip request form, input the actual location where your team is playing as the destination. For example, if your team is playing Saddleback H.S. at Memorial Park, enter Memorial Park as the destination - not Saddleback H.S.

Since most schools have specific bus drop-off locations, should there be a special drop-off location for an individual sport (baseball drop off might be in back of the school) put the name of the school as the destination and then the special drop-off location in the notes.
Buses are to depart from schools based on trip request times. Coaches, be they school staff or "walk-on," must be on-time to make this happen. Adjustments to scheduled times must be communicated as soon as possible.
Coaches are responsible for control of the group. Safety is the bus driver's first concern. Therefore, the bus driver will expect full cooperation from coaches when it comes to the safety of the group.

Cleats are NEVER to be worn on the bus.
Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus at any time. This includes chewing tobacco, sunflower seeds, nutrition bars, candy, etc.

## Sports Trips Times

Coaches need to verify the return time with the driver who takes them.
Should a coach desire an earlier return time than what was scheduled, inform the take driver who will then inform dispatch (the coach can also contact dispatch). We will do our best to accommodate your request.
Dispatchers are available from 5:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
If a group finishes early and wishes to be picked up early, call Dispatch. If it is "after hours," call Security at (714) 997-6396. We will do our best to accommodate your request.
If your bus is not at the site at the scheduled return time, call Dispatch. If it is "after hours," call Security at (714) 997-6396.

If your group has a TBA for a following day, you can call Dispatch that following morning, or leave a message on the answering machine. Messages are checked first thing in the morning. Call (714) 9976357 or (714) 997-6358.

If you are calling in "after hours" prior to a weekend or holiday trip, call Security and give them the times. Security will contact the driver and give her/him your trip times.
If you have a TBA for a weekend or a holiday trip, and Security has not received the times by 10:00 p.m. on the day before the trip, we will consider it a cancellation.

If you have an "after hours" emergency, call Security at (714) 997-6396.
If you have questions or concerns, contact the Field Trip Dispatcher at (714) 997-6357, or District extension 5311.

## BUS PASS OFFICE

Senior Staff Clerk, Crystal Johnson, and Senior Account Clerk, Kim Ayers are in charge of the Bus Pass Office. The Bus Pass Office sells, processes, and prints bus passes for students who ride district buses to and from school, both for regular education students and for students with special needs. In addition, they process bus pass refunds, and oversee the use of Emergency Bus Passes issued at school sites.

Below is a list of documents used in the Bus Pass Office. These documents can be found in the appendix:

- Letter to Parents/Guardians from the Director of Transportation.
- Bus Pass Information.
- Bus Pass Applications - English \& Spanish.
- Gross Income Eligibility Chart for bus pass pricing.
- School Bus Transportation Information - tri-fold (includes: Bus Conduct Regulations / Bus Discipline Procedures / Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) / Danger Zones info / Price Chart).
- Emergency Bus Pass Information.
- Board Policy 3250 - Transportation Fees.


## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Transporting students with special needs can require a high degree of coordination between the dispatchers who receive the initial information and the school bus drivers who actually transport the students to school in the morning and home in the afternoon. The dispatchers who keep everything running smoothly in the Transportation Department are Erik Marquez and Alejandra (Alley) Avila.

Below is a list of documents used in the Special Education Transportation Office. These documents can be found in the appendix:

- Quick Reference Guide for Special Education Transportation.
- Student Release / Important Information form - English \& Spanish.


## SAFETY \& TRAINING

The primary goal of the Training Department is to provide the most up-to-date instruction on all laws and regulations, behind-the-wheel training, and hands-on equipment training to ensure all students receive the safest school bus transportation possible.

## (cont. SAFETY \& TRAINING)

In addition to training, the Training Department serves the Orange Unified School District in other ways:

- Ensure OUSD school bus drivers' records are up-to-date and in compliance.
- Assist in resolving student discipline problems on school buses, and at designated loading / unloading locations.
- Investigate all school bus accidents and incidents.
- Assist in determining the safest means of transporting OUSD students with special needs.
- Inspect buses and driver credentials when outside agencies are contracted to transport OUSD students in order to make certain they meet all legal requirements.
- Other duties listed below.

Contact Information (To leave a voice message, call 714-516-2742)

| Omar Dena | Transportation Supervisor (oversees Training Dept.) | 714-997-6244 <br> odena@orangeusd.org |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ula Justus | Transportation Training Supervisor | ext.: 5635 <br> ujustus@orangeusd.org |
| Valerie Arellano | School Bus Driver/Instructor | ext.: 5310 <br> varellano@orangeusd.org |
| Richard Avila | School Bus Driver/Instructor | ext.: 5634 <br> ravila@orangeusd.org |

The Yearly Bus Evacuation Drill_(see appendix for the current Evacuation Drill schedule/calendar) Evacuation drills are scheduled for the months of August, September, October, and November. The evacuation drill simulates what might take place in an actual emergency. It may be repeated during the school year should the driver, or Training Department, believe it would be in the best interest of the students being transported.
Evacuation drills are conducted through a floor level emergency exit.
Accommodations may be made for students with special needs.

## State and Federal Regulations governing school bus driver training and pupil transportation:

Specialized Vehicle Driver Training Courses / CA Ed. Code 40081.
(a) The California Department of Education, Office of School Transportation, with the advice and assistance of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Department of the California Highway Patrol, develop and approve courses for training school bus drivers. These courses provide school bus drivers with the skills and knowledge necessary to prepare them for certification pursuant to Sections 12517, 12519, and 12804.6 of the California Vehicle Code.
(c) All courses of study and training activities are approved by the California Department of Education and given by, or in the presence of, an instructor in possession of a valid school bus driver instructor certificate of the appropriate class.

Minimum Course Work for Driver Certification / CA Ed. Code 40082.
(a) Every school bus driver must successfully complete a minimum 40-hour of course instruction.
(cont. SAFETY \& TRAINING)
The course shall include at least 20 hours of classroom instruction* in, but not limited to, all units of the Instructor's Manual for California's Bus Driver's Training Course.
The course shall also include at least 20 hours of behind-the-wheel training* in all sections of the Instructor's Behind-the-Wheel Guide for California's Bus Driver's Training Course.
*O.U.S.D. School Bus Driver Training Statistics:
Average classroom instruction hours - 32
Average behind-the-wheel training hours - 25
Qualifications for School Bus Drivers / CA Vehicle Codes 12517, 12517.2, 12517.3, 12522.

1. A Class A or B license endorsed for school bus and passenger transportation.
2. A California Special Driver Certificate (School Bus) validated by the CHP.
3. A report of medical examination renewed at least every two years (if not sooner).
4. Passing an examination on first aid practices every five years (if not sooner), and/or certification of attending and passing a first aid training program every two years (if not sooner).
5. Department of Justice Fingerprint clearance through CHP and Orange Unified School District.

Driving Proficiency / 13 California Code of Regulations 1229.
All school bus drivers must demonstrate they are capable of safely operating each different type of school bus before driving such bus on a highway unsupervised. This includes the driver demonstrating (s)he is capable of operating all equipment (wheelchair lifts, tie-downs, and all child safety restraint systems) necessary for safe transportation of students.
Drug \& Alcohol Testing for Commercial Drivers / 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 382.
Pass pre-employment drug tests, reasonable suspicion tests, and random drug \& alcohol tests.
School Bus Certificate Renewal Training Requirements / CA Ed. Code 40085.

1. School bus drivers seeking to renew their CA Special Driver Certificate (School Bus) must successfully complete at least 10 hours of certified training during each 12 months of certificate validity.
2. During the last 12 months of the special driver certificate validity, the 10 hours required shall consist of classroom instruction covering, but not limited to, current laws and regulations, defensive driving, accident prevention, emergency procedures, passenger loading and unloading, and the inspection procedures pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 39831.3.
3. Failure to successfully complete the required training, during any 12 month period of certificate validity is cause for the Department of Motor Vehicles to cancel the bus driver certificate.

Authority of the Driver / 5 California Code of Regulations 14103.
(a) Pupils transported in a school bus or in a school pupil activity bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to, the driver of the bus, and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway or road. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver
(cont. SAFETY \& TRAINING)
shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation. A bus driver shall not require any pupil to leave the bus enroute between home and school or other destinations.
(b) Governing boards shall adopt rules to enforce this section. Such rules shall include, but not be limited to, specific administration procedures relating to suspension of riding privileges and shall be made available to parents, pupils, teachers, and other interested parties.
(This information is also in the OUSD Parent/Student Handbook.)
Ejection of Pupils / 13 California Code of Regulations 1217 (i).
The driver of a school bus shall not eject any school pupil unless the pupil is given into the custody of a parent or any person designated by the parent or school.

Definition of School Bus Accident / CA Vehicle Code 12517.1.
(a) A school bus accident means any of the following:
(1) A motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage in excess of one thousand dollars $(\$ 1,000)$ or personal injury, on public or private property, and involving a school bus transporting a pupil.
(2) A collision between a vehicle and a pupil or a school bus driver while the pupil or driver is crossing the highway when the school bus flashing red signal lamps are required to be operated pursuant to Section 2212, or when the school bus is stopped for the purpose of loading or unloading pupils.
(3) Injury of a pupil inside the school bus as a result of acceleration, deceleration, or other movement of the vehicle.
(b) The Department of the California Highway Patrol shall investigate all school bus accidents.

Instruction in School Bus Emergency Procedures \& Passenger Safety / CA Ed. Code 39831.5.
(a) All pupils in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12 , inclusive, who are transported in a school bus shall receive instruction in school bus emergency procedures and passenger safety. The county superintendent of schools and superintendent of school district, shall ensure that the instruction is provided as follows:
(1) Upon registration, the parents or guardians of all pupils not previously transported in a school bus and who are in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 6 , shall be provided with written information on school bus safety. The information shall include, but not limited to, all of the following:
(A) A list of school bus stops near each pupils home.
(B) General rules of conduct at school bus loading zones.
(C) Red light crossing instructions.
(D) School bus danger zone.
(E) Walking to and from school bus stops.
(cont. SAFETY \& TRAINING)
(2) At least once each school year, all pupils in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1 to 8 , inclusive, who receive home-to-school transportation, shall receive safety instruction which includes, but is not limited to, proper loading and unloading procedures, including escorting by the driver, how to safely cross the street, highway, or private road, instruction on the use of passenger restraint systems, as described in paragraph (3), proper passenger conduct, bus evacuation, and location of emergency equipment. Instruction also may include the responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit. As part of the instruction, pupils shall evacuate the school bus through the emergency exit doors.*
(3) Instruction on the use of passenger restraint systems, when a passenger restraint system is installed, shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
(A) Proper fastening and release of the passenger restraint system.
(B) Acceptable placement of passenger restraint systems on pupils.
(C) Times at which the passenger restraint systems should be fastened and released.
(D) Acceptable placement of the passenger restraint systems when not in use.
(4) Prior to departure on a school activity trip, all pupils riding on a school bus shall receive safety instruction that includes, but is not limited to, location of emergency exits, and the location and use of emergency equipment. Instruction may also include the responsibilities of passengers seated next to an emergency exit.
(b) The following information shall be documented each time the instruction required by paragraph
(2) of subdivision (a) is given:
(1) Name of school district.
(2) Name and location of school.
(3) Date of instruction.
(4) Names of supervising adults.
(5) Number of pupils participating.
(6) Grade levels of pupils.
(7) Subjects covered in instruction.
(8) Amount of time taken for instruction.
(9) Bus driver's name.
(10) Bus number.
(11) Additional remarks.

The information recorded shall remain on file for one year from the date of instruction and shall be subject to inspection by the California Highway Patrol.

## *Additional Instruction in School Bus Emergency Procedures \& Passenger Safety

In addition to the requirements for Instruction in School Bus Emergency Procedures and Passenger Safety mandated by CA Ed. Code 39831.5., O.U.S.D. bus drivers provide students who are transported "home-to-school" the following instruction:

1) Review the "School Bus Rules" posted in the school bus.
2) Location of all emergency equipment and instruction on the proper use of fire extinguishers.
3) Location of and method of calling for assistance on the Two-way Radio.
4) Location and method of using the Parking Brake to stop and secure the bus in an emergency.
5) Emergency Exits

- Location and how to open.
- Choosing the safest exit to use in an emergency situation.
- Safe exiting procedures.

6) Where to go and what to do once the bus is evacuated.

## VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

The O.U.S.D. Vehicle Maintenance Department, lead by Supervisor, Mario Garcia, is charged with maintaining all District vehicles including school buses and "white" fleet vehicles.

The six heavy-duty technicians in the department each have numerous certifications required of those who service the vehicles transporting the world's most precious cargo - our school children.
The 118 District school buses require periodic preventative maintenance inspections every 45 days or 3,000 miles whichever comes first. These inspections can then lead to oil changes; tire changes; seat repairs; brake adjustments and replacements; valve adjustments; engine, transmission, and differential replacements; etc.

Additionally, the California Highway Patrol inspects all school buses and department records pertaining to the maintenance of the school buses annually.
The 147 vehicle white fleet includes food service department, warehouse department, and maintenance department trucks and vans; grounds crew trucks and equipment; adaptive P.E. vans; all the way down to the golf carts used at school sites. The Vehicle Maintenance performs a 100point check once every three months on the vast majority of these vehicles, and as with the school buses, performs the work necessary to keep this fleet running.

Copies of service, repair, and fuel bills are sent out to various departments and school sites at the beginning of each month for charges due to the Vehicle Maintenance Department.

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## Department Personnel, Responsibilities, and Contact Information

## Christina Celeste-Russo, Director

Transportation \& Vehicle Maintenance Departments Oversight
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Omar Dena, Trans. Supervisor Assists Director; Focus on Regular Education, Oversees Training Supervisor; Checks Bus Stops; Community Interaction; Employee Matters
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Rachel Vazquez, Trans. Supervisor Assists Director; Focus on Special Education Oversees Dispatch Office; NCLB; McKinney Vento; Community Interaction; Employee Matters
714-997-6244 / rvazquez@orangeusd.org
Mario Garcia, Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor
School Bus \& District Vehicle Maintenance; BIT Program; Smog Program; Ordering \& Billing; Reports; Employee Matters
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Ula Justus, Training Supervisor Oversees Safety \& Training Department, Evacuation Drills, Driver Training, Proficiencies \& Records; Checks Bus Stops; Accident Investigation; Community Interaction 714-997-6357 / ujustus@orangeusd.org

Sharon Breland, Senior Dispatcher Routes \& Schedules Home-to-School; Driver Assignments; Checks Bus Stops 714-997-6357 / sbreland@orangeusd.org

Erik Marquez, Router / Dispatcher In charge of Sp. Ed. for Dept., Routes \& Schedules Sp. Ed., Driver Assignments 714-997-6357 / emarquez@orangeusd.org

## Dept. Personnel (continued)

Alejandra (Alley) Avila, Router / Dispatcher Routes \& Schedules Special Education;
Driver Assignments
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Jill Bender, Router / Dispatcher
Schedules Field Trips; Routing; Bus Stops;
Driver Assignments
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Lola Reynoso, Secretary
Secretary to Director; Payroll; Purchase Orders; Field Trip Billing
714-997-6244 / Iolar@orangeusd.org
Kim Ayers, Senior Account Clerk Oversees Bus Pass Office, Bus Pass Banking/Accounting/ Refunds; Payroll; Correspondence
714-538-8295 / kayers@orangeusd.org
Crystal Johnson, Senior Staff Clerk
Bus Pass Office; Bus Pass Customer Service;
Correspondence
14-538-8295 / crystal.johnson@orangeusd.org
Robert Garrido, Staff/School Clerk
Assists in the Dispatch Office with Routing; Community Interaction
714-997-6357 / rgarridoj@orangeusd. org
Safety \& Training Department
Instructors / Call this \# when Training Supervisor cannot be reached. 714-516-2742

Orange Unified Security Department Security can be called after regular business hours, on weekends and holidays if you have Trans. Dept. / bus concerns. 714-628-4573 / 714.997.6396

Available for Parents - Z Pass

Students scan their bus pass when they board or leave the bus and parents are able to track this information.

## $z$ EMAR

information.

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Transportation DEPARTMENT

## Quick Reference Guide (revised $7 / 21$ )



OUSD Transportation Department 726 W. Collins Ave., Orange, CA, 92867

The OUSD Transportation Safety Plan is in compliance with CA Ed. Code 39831.3 and can be found in the Trans. Handbook for School Sites. It contains: (1) determining if pupils require escort to cross a highway or private road, (2) procedures for pupils to follow as they board and exit the bus at a bus stop, (3) procedures for boarding and exiting a bus at a school or trip destination, (4) procedures to ensure a pupil is not left unattended on a bus, (5) procedures and standards for designating a chaperone on a School Pupil Activity Bus (\#5 applies when pupils are not transported on a District bus).

## FIELD / SPORT / ACTIVITY TRIPS

Dispatcher, Jill Bender, handles trip requests. Requests are submitted online at: triprequest.transtraks.com. For assistance with this system, contact Jill. Make your requests as early as possible, yet never less than 10 working days in advance. For more information see the Transportation Handbook for School Sites / Field Trips. CHARTERED TRIPS: When trips are scheduled with, or covered by, outside companies, a member of the Training Department may come out to inspect the bus(es) and driver(s) credentials to make certain they meet all legal requirements.
LIMOUSINES: School sites contracting with limo companies, or with promotional companies offering limo prizes, must ensure legal requirements are met. Information is in the handbook. However, contact our department to schedule a Trainer to come out on the day of the activity to ensure the limo and driver can legally transport your students.
USE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT STUDENTS FOR DISTRICT ACTIVITIES/EVENTS: District employees and/or volunteers (other than District school bus drivers in District school buses) who transport students must have the OUSD School Driver Certification Form on file with the Risk Management Office at least two weeks before driving students. See the Handbook / Other.

Students are required to possess a bus pass before boarding the bus for home-to-school, or school-to-home transportation. Bus passes are obtained from the bus pass office at the MOT site. Lost or stolen passes can be replaced for a \$10 processing fee.
EMERGENCY BUS PASSES: School sites issue green emergency bus passes to students with valid bus passes who may have lost/misplaced their pass. These are ONE-TIME passes issued with the student's current, assigned bus stop noted on the pass. Lists with students' assigned bus stops are updated and sent to school sites monthly. Call the Bus Pass Office for students not on the list.
NOTE: Emergency bus passes are never issued to students wishing to ride the bus with a friend, or to students whose parents cannot pick them up from school.

GETTING OFF BUS AT UNASSIGNED BUS STOPS: Students with bus passes who wish to get off the bus at a location other than their assigned stop must present the bus driver a written parental request. The request must have been approved and noted by a school administrator prior to the student boarding the bus.

SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT REPORTS
Bus Conduct Reports may be issued to pupils who: violate the bus rules, impair the safe driving of the school bus, or compromise their safety, or the safety, well-being, and/or respect of others.
Drivers fill out the Bus Conduct Report form and submit copies to school administration.
School administration takes appropriate action, notes it on the form, and sends copies to the Transportation Department .
The Transportation Department administration, as well as the Training Department, is happy to assist in resolving issues. Digital Video Recorders (DVRs) are installed on all buses, and recordings often provide useful information.

SAFETY \& TRAINING
School bus transportation remains the safest mode of transportation on the road - safer than even parental transportation. School bus driver training, as well as safety instruction to students who ride buses contributes to why this is so.
SCHOOL BUS EVACUATION DRILLS: CA Ed. Code requires all pupils who receive home-to-school transportation receive safety instruction which includes evacuation practice. Schedules for school-site bus evacuation drills are sent out annually. Contact the Training Department if you have questions.
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING: School bus drivers receive Federal and State mandated extensive training in current laws, regulations, and behind-the-wheel practices; more so than any other licensed driver on the road.
AUTHORITY OF THE DRIVER: All bus riders, including teachers and district staff, should know Title 5 of the CA Code of Regulations states:
"Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to the driver of the bus, and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus ..."
SCHOOL BUS ACCIDENTS: School site staff should understand the Dept. of the CHP is required to investigate all school bus accidents. Therefore, when students are aboard buses involved in accidents, their arrival to school or home may be delayed. The Transportation Department Dispatch Staff will make every effort to notify schools and parents when this is the case.
THE TRANSPORTATION TRAINING DEPARTMENT:
The Training Department is available to assist at all school sites with anything related to the safe transportation of students. This includes: site loading/unloading area evaluation, advanced preparation for lower grade field trips, student behavior/disciplinary problems, etc.
STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: Transportation is a related service for many students with special needs. It is imperative the Trans. Dept. be involved with IEP transportation decisions.

## Bus Pass Information \& Application

Dear Parents/Guardians,
We in the Orange Unified School District Transportation Department welcome you to a new school year. We thank you for choosing to use the school bus to transport your children to and/or home from school. The District continues to offer a parent pay program for those who use school bus transportation.

This year, the options for purchasing bus passes remain the same as last year. You can email, or mail, your application. You can pay for bus passes over the phone or by using "paypams" - the same system that is used in Nutrition Services. Also, you can now make an appointment to visit our Bus Pass office - go to the District website > click on Departments > click on Business Services > click on Transportation > click on Bus Pass / Parent Pay Program > and then, click on Appointments and follow the instructions.

Please read this packet thoroughly for information and instructions regarding bus passes and remember, a new application must be completed each school year.

Our Transportation Department is remains committed to making school bus transportation the safest form of on-the-road vehicle transportation in the nation. Our entire staff; from drivers, to dispatchers, trainers, bus mechanics, office personnel, and administrators, is here to serve you with the highest standards.

If you are new to our services, we hope to earn your trust and serve you for years to come. If you are returning for another year, thank you for the privilege of serving you again.

Please contact us at the numbers above, or email us at buspass@orangeusd.org, should you have questions, concerns, or suggestions. We value your trust and are here to make certain we do not lose it.
Sincerely,


Christina Celeste-Russo
Director of Transportation and Mechanical Services

It is now possible to pay for bus passes using


If you use this service for school lunch payments, login to your account.
If you are new to this service, create an account at paypams.com.

- Continued on back -

The Bus Pass Office is located at 726 W. Collins Ave., Orange, 92867, between Glassell St. and Batavia St.


## General information

## BUS PASS INFORMATION

All students transported to and from school are required to have a bus pass in order to ride the bus. When boarding or exiting the bus, students scan the bus pass. Students must present their bus pass to the bus driver, or other district official, when requested.

## Purchase Options

Annual or Semester (first semester passes expire the Friday before Winter Break).
Round Trip or One-way (to school or from school)

## Bus Pass Sales Begin on the third Monday of July

Note: a) Historically, the line to purchase a bus pass becomes longer as the start-date of school approaches. Consider purchasing your bus pass(es) via email or mail.
b) Please make an appointment if you must come in to the office - the earlier, the better!

## What to Bring to the Bus Pass Office to Purchase a Bus Pass

Bus pass application form (a new application is required every school year), please fill out prior to coming.
A current wallet-size photo for each child getting a bus pass.
Note: a) Your child's bus stop will be the closest/safest to your residence. Should you prefer a different bus stop, you must submit a Request to Choose a School Bus Stop Not Closest to Student's Home form.
b) Children are discouraged from coming in with parents.

## Purchasing Bus Passes via Email or Mail

Bus pass applications can be sent: (1) via email (put your credit card information on the application, or we can obtain the information via phone call). (2) By mail (include personal check or credit card information).

Email to buspass@orangeusd.org
Mail to: Orange Unified School District / Attention: TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
726 W. Collins Ave.
Orange, CA 92867
Remember to include a current wallet-size photo (or electronic photo) for each child getting a bus pass.
Reduced-price Purchases (available to qualifying families)
To be considered, you must apply in-person with (1) the application form, (2) current wallet-size photo for each child, and (3) current "year-to-date" gross income documentation for all members of the household.

Acceptable documentation includes:
Paycheck, pension, or other stubs (Must show current year-to-date income)
Current AFDC Notice of Action (or print-out showing past 12 mo . income)
Letters from employers verifying income (Must be on business letterhead)
Medi-Cal eligibility print-out from the Doctor, Pharmacy or Social Worker
(No Medi-Cal Card)
Proof of income from sources out of this area (other states, countries, etc.)
Federal Income Tax Returns (2nd Semester only)

Evidence of child support Proof of direct deposits of income Savings account statements Unemployment receipts

W-2 Forms (2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}$ Sem. only)

See the Gross Income Eligibility Chart for pricing information.
A $\$ 10.00$ processing fee per student will be charged - not to exceed $\$ 30.00$ per family
Make Check / Money Order Payable to O.U.S.D. Transportation (note-there is a $\$ 25.00$ fee for "insufficient funds")

## Replacements

OUSD is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged bus passes. Bus passes can be replaced for a $\$ 10.00$ fee.

## Refunds

Pro-rated refunds are available for students who move out of the school district or change address to a residence where transportation is no longer needed. Return the bus pass and submit a Bus Pass Refund Request form. Upon approval, a refund check will be mailed. Allow four-six weeks for processing.
Refunds are not available for loss of service due to disciplinary reasons.

## Bus Transportation / Bus Passes for Open Enrollment or Inter-District Transfers

As outlined in the open enrollment contract, parents must provide transportation to and from the school.
Note: Bus passes are the property of the Orange Unified School District and will be returned upon request. Bus Passes will be collected by the bus driver on, or near, their expiration date.

## Orange Unified School District Transportation Department

726 W. Collins Ave., Orange, CA 92867 / Bus Pass Office: 714.538.8295 / Business Office: 714.997.6244
BUS PASS APPLICATION
For more information about purchasing bus passes (dates \& times, in-person vs electronic vs phone in, etc.) see Trans. Dept. website.

| Parent/Guardian Information |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Last | First |  |
| Name: | Name: | Preferred |
|  |  | Phone: |
| Address: | City: | Zip |
| Email: | Other | Code: |

Student Information / If purchasing bus passes for more than 4, use an additional application form.

| 1 | Last <br> Name: | First Name: |  | Student ID \#: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Date of Birth: | Grade: | School: |  |
|  | Proposed bus stop (must be nearest stop to residence): |  |  |  |
| 2 | Last <br> Name: | First Name: |  | Student ID \#: |
|  | Date of Birth: | Grade: | School: |  |
|  | Proposed bus stop (must be nearest stop to residence): |  |  |  |
| 3 | Last Name: | First Name: |  | Student ID \#: |
|  | Date of Birth: | Grade: | School: |  |
|  | Proposed bus stop (must be nearest stop to residence): |  |  |  |
| 4 | Last <br> Name: | First Name: |  | Student ID \#: |
|  | Date of Birth: | Grade: | School: |  |
|  | Proposed bus stop (must be nearest stop to residence): |  |  |  |

Bus Pass(es) / Select the type \& number of passes / note: Fall passes expire mid-December / Discount applies to 3 or more passes

| Annual/Round-trip \$335 | Annual/AM \$225 | Annual/PM \$225 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semester/Round-trip \$215 | Semester/AM \$165 | Semester/PM \$165 |
| Reduced-price/Round-trip | Reduced-price/AM | Reduced-price/PM |

If purchasing multiple types of passes, designate who receives what type (e.g. John - Annual/AM, Jane - Annual/PM, Jack - Annual/PM)

| Method of | check one) / If | nt, do no |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Check/Money Order payable to OUSD Transportation Department (note-there is a \$25.00 fee for "insufficient funds") |  |  |  |  |  |
| VISA | Master Card | Discover | AMEX |  | PayPAMS-go to online payment system |
| Name on Card: |  | Card \#: |  | CCV: | Exp. Date: |

My signature certifies the information above is correct and verifiable. I understand the policies regarding bus pass purchase, expiration, replacement, revocation, and refund as stated in Transportation Department policies provided to purchasers.

Parent or
Guardian
Signature:
Date:

Distrito Escolar Unificado de Orange Departamento De Transportación
726 W. Collins Ave., Orange, CA 92867 / Oficina de Pases de Autobús: 714.538.8295 /Oficina 714.997.6244
SOLICITUD PARA PASES DE AUTOBUS
Para obtener más información sobre la compra de pases de autobús (fechas y horario, en persona vs electrónico vs por teléfono, etc.) visite el sitio web del Departamento de Transportación.

| Información |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Apellido: | Primer Nombre: | No. de Teléfono Preferido: |
| Dirección: | Ciudad: | Código <br> Postal: |
| Correo Electrónico: | Otro Teléfono: | Otro <br> Teléfono: |


| Apellido: | Primer Nombre: | \# de ID del <br> Estudiante: |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fecha de Nacimiento: | Grado: |  |

Parada de Autobús propuesta (debe ser la parada más cerca a la residencia):
2

| Primer | \# de ID del |
| :---: | ---: |
| Nombre: | Estudiante: |

Apellido:
Nombre:
Estudiante:
Fecha de
Nacimiento: Grado: Escuela:
Parada de Autobús propuesta (debe ser la parada más cerca a la residencia):

| Apellido: | Primer <br> Nombre: | \# de ID del <br> Estudiante: |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Fecha de |  |  |
| Nacimiento: | Grado: | Escuela: |

Pase(s) de Autobús / Seleccione el tipo y número de pases / Tenga en cuenta: Pases del Otoño expiran a mitad de Diciembre / Descuento aplica solo en la compra de 3 pases o más

|  | Anual/Ida y Vuelta \$335 |  | Anual/AM \$225 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Anual/PM \$225 |  |  |  |
|  | Semestre/Ida y Vuelta \$215 | Semestre/AM \$165 |  | Semestre/PM \$165 |
|  | Precio Reducido /Ida y Vuelta |  | Precio Reducido/AM | Precio Reducido/PM |

Si compra varios tipos de pases, designe quien recibirá que tipo de pase (P.EJ. John - Anual/AM, Jane - Anual/PM, Jack - Anual/PM)

| Forma de Pago (Marque una)/Si envía el pago por correo, no mande dinero en efectivo. |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cheque/Giro Postal pagado a nombre de OUSD Transportation Department (Tenga en cuenta - hay una tarifa de \$ 25.00 por "fondos insuficientes") |  |  |  |  |  |
| VISA | Master Card | Discover | AMEX | PayPAMS-ir al sistema de pago Online |  |
| Nombre en la Tarjeta: |  | \# de Tarjeta: |  | CCV: | Fecha de Exp.: |


| Mi firma certifica que la información anterior es correcta y verificable. Entiendo las políticas con respecto a la compra, vencimiento, reemplazo, <br> revocació y reembolso de pases de autobús según lo establecido en las políticas del Departamento de Transportación que se proporcionan a <br> los compradores. |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Firma de los <br> Padres/Tutores: | Fecha: |

## BUS PASS INFORMATION

## GROSS INCOME ELIGIBILITY CHART



* Household Size refers to the number of people living in the same house, condominium, apartment, etc. Include related, or non-related, individuals who share the same living space and expenses (rent, utility bills, food cost, clothing costs, etc.)
For purposes of this chart, a foster child is considered a one-member household if the welfare placement agency maintains legal responsibility for the foster child.
"Gross Income" refers to total household income BEFORE taxes and/or deductions. It includes wages, welfare payments, food stamp allotments, pensions, Social Security payments, S.S.I., child support, alimony, income from investments, and all other income for ALL members of the household.

If there are more than 8 people in your household, the Bus Pass Office staff will assist you with guidelines.
You must provide Income Tax Return documentation to verify you have more than 3 dependents.

## SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER CONDUCT/REGULATIONS

Passenger conduct can directly affect the safety of all aboard the bus. The following regulations apply before, during, and at the completion of home - school, school - home bus transportation Parents/guardians and school personnel should be familiar with the regulations. Pupils must follow the regulations.
5 CCR 14103 states, "Pupils transported in a school bus ... shall be under the authority of and responsible directly to the driver of the bus.
Pupils shall be aware of the "Danger Zones" around the school bus. These zones include twelve (12) feet around the entire bus with the "Most Dangerous Zones" being directly in front of the bus, near the passenger side rear tires, and rear of the bus (see diagram on other side of page)
Do not litter at school bus stops or in the school bus.
Do not engage in vandalism, destruction of property, or graffiti. Repair costs will be billed to the guilty pupil(s) and their parents. At the pick-up location:

1. Use only the designated bus stop and school bus.
2. Arrive at the bus stop at least five (5), but not more than ten (10) minutes, before the school bus is due. Whenever possible, walk to and from the school bus stop in groups. Behave in an orderly manner at the bus stop.
3. As the school bus arrives, form a line, and stand at least twelve (12) feet to the front and side of where the bus stops. Do not move toward the school bus until the entrance door opens.
Boarding the bus:
4. Do not bring animals (except registered service animals), glass objects, skates, skateboards, large, bulky, or hazardous articles on the school bus.
5. Enter the bus in an orderly manner using the handrail(s).
6. Display/scan your bus pass. Do not use an expired bus pass. Do not use another pupil's bus pass.
7. Follow the bus driver's instructions. Bus drivers are authorized to assign seats, assign three (3) pupils to a seat bench, assign seat mates, and other actions as needed for safe transportation of pupils.
8. Go directly to a seat. Remain seated at all times, facing forward. If the school bus is equipped with seat belts, pupils must use them.
Aboard the bus:
9. Keep all body parts inside of the bus. Do not spit or throw anything in or out of the school bus.
10. All electronic signaling devices, including cell phones, shall be set to silent or vibrate upon entering the school bus. Use while on the bus is limited to purposes related to health and safety.
11. Talk quietly. Do not shout, yell, use profane language or gestures, or behave in a boisterous manner. Do not engage in unnecessary conversation with the bus driver.
12. Remain quiet as the school bus stops at and crosses railroad tracks.
13. Do not bring weapons of any type
14. Do not use any writing instruments while on the bus.
15. Do not possess or use tobacco, drugs, or alcohol. Do not vape.
16. Do not eat, drink, or chew gum.
17. Do not play or tamper with any part of the school bus.
18. Shoes must be worn at all times. Wearing cleats is not allowed.
Exiting the bus, and leaving the drop-off location:
19. Exit the bus only at your designated bus stop. Note: a oneday request for an alternate drop off location requires a parental note and approval by the principal.
20. Follow the bus driver's instructions.
21. Remain properly seated until the bus comes to a complete stop and the door is opened.
22. Move toward the front of the bus in an orderly manner.
23. If you cross the roadway the bus stops on, notify the bus driver. Follow the bus driver's instructions as you are escorted across the roadway.
24. Use the handrail(s) and exit the bus in an orderly manner.
25. Immediately move out of the "Danger Zone" to the right front, right, or right rear of the bus if you do not need to be escorted across the roadway.
26. Do not attempt to return to the bus without first getting the attention of the bus driver.
27. Do not talk to strangers or accept rides from strangers.

Note: Audio/video recording equipment may be used aboard buses for safety/security monitoring.
These Passenger Conduct/Regulations can also be found in the OUSD Parent/Pupil Handbook.

## Discipline Procedures

Violations of School Bus Passenger Conduct/Regulations will result in drivers issuing Bus Conduct Reports. Drivers may also issue Bus Conduct Reports to students who, in the judgement of the driver, impairs the driver's ability to drive the bus safely, or who jeopardizes the safety of other pupils.
First Violation: The pupil will be counseled by a school administrator. In serious matters, the parent/guardian will be contacted.
Second Violation: If recommended by the driver and supported by the school administrator, the pupil may be refused bus transportation for up to three (3) days. Parent/guardian will be notified.
Third Violation: The pupil may be refused bus transportation for five (5) or more days. The penalty will be determined by a conference that may include the principal, the pupil, a parent/guardian, the bus driver, and/or a leadership representative of the Transportation Department. The effective date of suspension and resumption of bus riding privileges will be determined at that conference. If no parent/guardian is present, implementation of penalty will be effective at the time a parent/guardian is notified.
Gross Violation: In serious matters, even for a first violation, a pupil's bus riding privileges may be revoked.
Refunds: There will be no refunds for days a pupil's bus riding privileges are suspended/revoked.

ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION


## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

726 W. Collins Ave.
Orange CA 92867
Bus Pass Office
(714) 538-8295

Business Office
(714) 997-6244

OUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Kris Erickson
Rick Ledesma
Kathryn A. Moffat
John Ortega
Ana Page
Angie Rumsey
Andrea Yamasaki
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
Gunn Marie Hansen, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION
Christina Celeste-Russo

## School Bus Transportation FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Q. Who needs a bus pass?
A. Pupils living outside of the NON-busing area for their home school \& desire to ride a bus.
2. Q. What are the NON-busing areas for schools?
A. Elementary schools - within 1.0 mile of home Middle schools - within 2.5 miles of home High schools - within 3.0 miles of home.
3. Q. Are there deadlines for obtaining a bus pass?
A. No, but pupils must have a bus pass to ride the school buses.
4. $Q$. Is the pupil required to carry the pass daily?
A. Yes. It must be shown to board and exit the bus.
5. Q. How do I get a bus pass?
A. By mail or in person. Applications and passes are available at the address on the front of this flyer and online at orangeusd.org. The Transportation Office is in the old house on the south side of Collins, west of Glassell, between the railroad tracks and Batavia.
6. Q. What are the Bus Pass Office hours?
A. 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.
7. Q. Will there be a long line to purchase a bus pass?
A. Quite possibly. Lines are usually shorter early in the morning and longest during lunch hours and after 3:00 p.m. The office closes at 4:00 p.m.
8. Q. Is there a program for low-income families?
A. Yes, see Gross Income Eligibility Guidelines available through the Bus Pass Office. Applicants must apply in person and provide proof of income (ex. most recent pay stubs for both parents, unemployment receipts, current Medi-Cal print out). Additionally, a photograph of each pupil, and a $\$ 10.00$ processing fee per bus pass is also required.
9. Q. How do I purchase a bus pass by mail?
A. A full-price bus pass may be purchased by mail. See instructions on the application form. Please enclose a photograph of each pupil with his/her name on the back.
Allow 10 to 14 days for delivery.
Reduced-price and free of charge bus passes are not available by mail.
10. Q. What if a bus pass is lost, stolen, or damaged?
A. A replacement pass is required and can be purchased for $\$ 10$. Call the bus pass office to make a credit card purchase over the phone.

DANGER ZONES AROUND A BUS
11. Q. What if we move or have no further need of bus transportation?
A. If a pupil moves out of the district or changes address to a residence where bus transportation is no longer needed, a prorated refund is available (AR-3250). A Bus Pass Refund Request form must be submitted and the bus pass returned to the Bus Pass Office. Refunds for other reasons must be approved by the Director of Trans.
12. Q. Can bus passes be transferred from one pupil to another?
A. No.
13. Q. Is bussing available for the GATE program? A. No.
14. Q. Is bussing available for Transitional Kinder.?
A. Yes, when a student resides outside the NON-busing area and goes to their homeschool.
15. Q. When do first semester passes expire?
A. The Friday before Winter Break.
16. Q. When do sales of $2^{\text {nd }}$ Semester bus passes begin for full and reduced price?
A. The third Monday of November. Reduced price requires updated verification; see \# 8 .


BUS PASS PRICE CHART

| TERM | TYPE | CATEGORY | COST |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: |
| Annual | Round-Trip | Full Price | $\$ 335.00$ |
|  | One-Way | Full Price | $\$ 225.00$ |
|  | Round-Trip | Full Price | $\$ 215.00$ |
|  | One-Way | Full Price | $\mathbf{\$ 1 6 5 . 0 0}$ |
| Semester | Round-Trip | Reduced | $\mathbf{\$ 1 2 5 . 0 0}$ |
|  | One-Way | Reduced | $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0 . 0 0}$ |

There is a price reduction for those who purchase three or more passes.
A $\$ 10.00$ processing fee will be charged for each subsidized bus pass, not to exceed $\$ 30.00$ per family.
If you are paying full price, apply by mail and avoid the line at the Bus Pass Office. See Question 9.

If you are paying by check or money order, please make check payable to O.U.S.D. Transportation.
Please note - O.U.S.D. will assess a $\$ 25.00$ fee for checks returned for insufficient funds.

Orange Unified School District Transportation Department<br>726 W. Collins Ave., Orange, CA 92867<br>Bus Pass Office: 714.538.8295 / Business Office: 714.997.6244

## - EMERGENCY BUS PASS INFORMATION -

Attached is a list of students who have been issued bus passes for the 2021-2022 school year.
Please refer to this list when issuing the green emergency bus passes to students who have forgotten or lost their bus pass.

Emergency bus passes can ONLY be issued to students who are on the list. If a student insists he/she has a current, valid bus pass but is not on the list, call the bus pass office and allow us to confirm the information before issuing an emergency bus pass.

Do not issue an emergency bus pass for any of the following reasons:

- A student wants to ride home on the bus with a friend who rides the bus.
- A student who is not on the list and whose parents cannot pick her/him up yet lives near a school bus stop.
- A student who has exhausted his/her number of emergency bus passes.

The list includes AM and/or PM designated bus stop locations. An emergency bus pass can only be issued with the designated bus stop location for the student unless he/she provides a written parental request, approved by school site administration, for a one-time alternate dropoff at a different designated bus stop location.

The list also includes information about bus pass validity. An emergency bus pass can only be issued during the time a student's bus pass is valid.
Bus Pass Codes:

| A | Annual Pass <br> both ways |
| :---: | :---: |
| AA | Annual Pass <br> A.M. only |
| AP | Annual Pass <br> P.M. only |


| F | Fall Semester Pass <br> both ways |
| :---: | :---: |
| FA | Fall Semester Pass <br> A.M. only |
| FP | Fall Semester Pass <br> P.M. only |


| S | Spring Semester Pass <br> both ways |
| :---: | :---: |
| SA | Spring Semester Pass <br> A.M. only |
| SP | Spring Semester Pass <br> P.M. only |

Lists are updated and sent out to school sites by the $2^{\text {nd }}$ of each month starting in August. A student who receives a bus pass after the date on the list will not appear on the list until the following month. Call the bus pass office to verify pass validity, if necessary.

Emergency bus passes are limited to three per student, per semester. If a student has reached the limit, refer the student to the District Transportation Bus Pass Office.

If you run low on passes, email or call the Bus Pass Office and we will send you more.

Crystal Johnson, Bus Pass Office Clerk


School: $\square$ Issued by:
Bus Stop: $\qquad$ \#of Passes:
(Please check bus pass list for correct bus stop)
Valid only on this date:
**Limit $\underline{3}$ emergency bus passes per student per

## Transportation Fees

Because the cost of providing student transportation exceeds funding provided by the state, the Board of Education finds it necessary to charge fees for home-to-school student transportation.

The total amount received for transportation from the state and parent/guardian fees shall not exceed the actual operating cost of home-to-school transportation during the school year.

The Superintendent or designee shall submit proposed transportation fee changes for Board approval. Fees shall be determined on the basis of operating costs in accordance with law.

The transportation fee shall be waived, or reduced, for students with demonstrated financial need in accordance with Education Code 39807.5. Eligibility for free and reduced transportation based on financial need shall be determined in accordance with the income eligibility scales used for the free and reduced-price lunch program.

In addition, no charge shall be made for any transportation of students whose individualized education program include transportation as a related service necessary to receive a free appropriate public education, or whose parents/guardians are determined indigent pursuant to administrative regulations. (cf. 3540 - Transportation) (cf. 3541.2 - Transportation for Special Education Students)

The Board shall certify to the County Superintendent of Schools that the District has levied fees in accordance with law and that, in the event that excess fees have been charged, the fees have been reduced and excess fee revenue eliminated. (Education Code 39809.5)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
10900-10914.5 Community recreation program, especially:
10913 Fees for uses of school buses for community recreation purposes
35330 Excursions or field trips
39800-39860 Transportation, especially:
$39801.5 \quad$ Transportation fees for adults
39807.5 Payment of transportation cost; amount of payment
39809.5 Excess fees; adjustments

39837 Fees for summer employment transportation
41850 Home-to-school and special education transportation
49014 Public School Fair Debt Collection Act
49557 Applications for free and reduced price meals
49558 Confidentiality of applications and records
56026 Individuals with exceptional needs
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
350 Fees not permitted

QUALIFICATIONS FOR WHO CAN BE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE YOUR CHILD WHEN DROPPED-OFF?

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- Must be responsible and familiar with your child's disability.
- Must be prepared to deal with your child's behaviors.
- Must have photo I.D. available. Remember, substitute bus drivers may question identity.


## WHAT TO DO WHEN A PREVIOUSLY NOT AUTHORIZED ADULT IS TO RECEIVE YOUR

CHILD WHEN DROPPED-OFF
As stated in the Must-be-Met section of this guide, only adults authorized by parents/ guardians can receive students at the P.M. dropoff location.
In the event the parent/guardian desires an adult not previously identified on the Student Release form to receive their child, the following is required:

- Write a note that includes:

1. your child's name
2. name of person to receive your child
3. relationship of person to your child (family member, neighbor, friend, babysitter, etc.)
4. date this person is to receive your child
5. your name (printed), signature, date

- Give this note to the bus driver the day before, or on the day the person will receive your child.
- Inform the person who will receive your child she/he must be prepared to show photo I.D.


## WHEELCHAIRS

CA Code of Regulations $1293(\mathrm{~g})$ requires wheelchairs transported on school buses be "equipped with brakes and a restraining belt properly maintained by the owner of the chair." Transportation can be postponed if the wheelchair is not properly equipped.

## SCHOOL BUS RULES

- Always follow the bus driver's instructions.
- Do not approach the bus until the door opens.
- Remain seated, with seat belt or other child safety restraint system fastened, and facing forward until the bus driver releases you.
- Keep hands, feet, and personal objects to yourself.
- Be polite and talk quietly.
- No eating, drinking, or gum chewing.

Safety aboard the school bus is key at all times. Students' behaviors must not distract the driver from being able to focus on the road while driving. Behavior modification plans and/or devices may be considered when necessary.
Drivers may assign seats to students on the bus. Surveillance systems may be used to monitor student behavior.
The Transportation Department assumes no responsibility for lost items. However, every effort to locate such items and return them to their owner will be made.

## YOUR TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE

(please input information for reference) A.M. Schedule

Bus \# $\qquad$ Departure Time $\qquad$

Driver's Name: $\qquad$
Modified/Minimum Day Schedule

Bus \# $\qquad$ Drop-Off Time: $\qquad$

Driver's Name: $\qquad$
P.M. Schedule

Bus \#: $\qquad$ Drop-Off Time: $\qquad$

Driver's Name: $\qquad$

## Quick <br> Reference Guide

## Transportation

 for Students with Special Needs

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This Quick Reference Guide is designed to give you important information about the Transportation Department and the transportation of your student aboard the District's school buses.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact us.

We look forward to another safe and great year! Christina Celeste-Russo, Director of Transportation

## TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION

## Dispatch Office

714-997-6358
714-997-6357

Business Office
714-997-6244

## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT STAFF

Erik Marquez, Sp. Ed. Dispatcher (primary) emarquez@orangeusd.org

Alejandra Avila, Sp. Ed. Dispatcher (secondary) aavila@orangeusd.org

Rachel Vazquez, Supervisor
rvazquez@orangeusd.org
Omar Dena, Supervisor
odena@orangeusd.org
Christina Celeste-Russo, Director
cceleste@orangeusd.org
EMERGENCY \& MEDICAL DATA TAG
A small plastic tag that you can insert medical and emergency information into is available through the Dispatch Office. Contact us for more information or to obtain one free of charge.

## BUS PASS with "Z Pass"

Students scan their bus pass when they board or leave the bus and parents are able to track this information.


## PARENT /GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- Complete \& return the Student Release/

Important Info. form (also available online).

- Review the School Bus Rules with children.
- Securely attach the bus pass to student's backpack.
- Mark all personal belongings.
- Be ready and waiting five minutes prior to pick-up/departure time. Driver will not honk!
- Display O-Card if student is not riding the bus.
- Be present, or make arrangements, to receive student for P.M. Drop-Off.
- Take student's medication(s) to school. (School bus drivers cannot transport medications.)
- Do not send student to school when sick! If student does not ride the bus for 3 consecutive days or more, driver may stop coming by Notify Dispatch when student is well enough to return to school.
- Notify Pupil Services Department of changes or modifications to transportation provisions. After Pupil Services notifies Dispatch, modifications take 3-5 business days.


## ORANGE "O-CARD"

- Parents/guardians should receive a heavy sheet of paper with a large, orange " 0 " on it. This "O-Card" is to be used to communicate to the bus driver your child will not be riding the bus.
On days when your child will not ride the bus, display the O-Card in a location easily viewable by the bus driver (examples: in a window, on a door, on a garage door, etc.). When the bus driver sees the O-Card she/he knows your child will not be riding the bus. The driver will not wait at your residence, and can continue on the route.
In addition to displaying the O-Card, feel free to contact Dispatch to let them know your child will not be riding the bus. This goes a long way in keeping the driver on schedule.

Note: if you have not received an O-Card, or need a new one, let your child's bus driver know and/or contact Dispatch.

## NOTE: TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

## A.M. PICK-UP / DEPARTURE TIME

Students are to be at their designated school bus stop, ready to board the school bus 5 minutes before the scheduled departure time.

The school bus will not wait more than 2 minutes past the departure time.

## P.M. DROP-OFF

## MUST-BE-MET REQUIREMENT:

A parent/guardian must be at the designated school bus stop to receive students upon arrival of the school bus unless alternative arrangements have been made. Note: this includes minimum day and modified day schedules. Be aware of your student's school calendar

ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (see Student Release form):

1. Self-Release. Parents/Guardians must indicate on the Student Release form that their child can be dropped-off without a parent/ guardian being present.
2. Release to an Adult Authorized by Parent/ Guardian. Parents/Guardians must indicate on the Student Release form who they authorize the student to be released to.

## NO ONE TO RECEIVE STUDENT PROCEDURES:

- School bus driver notifies Dispatch
- Dispatch attempts to contact parent/ guardian/"authorized adult"/emergency contact.
- If no one is available to receive the student, student remains on the bus and the driver continues on the route.
- After the driver drops-off all other students, the driver returns to the school bus stop or contacts Dispatch to see someone has been contacted who can receive the student.
- If no one can receive the student, the driver returns the student to his/her school, provided someone is available there.
- As a last resort, the student will be taken to the local law enforcement agency.

Orange Unified School District Transportation Department
726 W. Collins Ave., Orange, CA 92867
Dispatch: 714.997.6357 / Bus Pass: 714.538.8295 / Business Office: 714.997.6244

- STUDENT RELEASE / IMPORTANT INFORMATION -

Fill out this form, sign it, and return to the OUSD Trans. Department as soon as possible.
For your convenience, this form is available on the District's website-www.orangeusd.org/ departments/ business-services/transportation/students-with-special-needs. Fill-out, print, and return, or email it to buspass@orangeusd.org.
(Print clearly)
Student's Name: $\qquad$

Student's School: $\qquad$
Drop-off/Authorized Bus Stop location:

## city

zip code
Check ONE box below for P.M., minimum day, modified day, or any other drop-off:
Release student to parent/guardian ONLY.
Student can be released to enter residence unattended (also known as "self-release").
Student can be released when one of the following individuals is present to receive the student. Note - anyone listed must meet the following qualifications: (1) must be 18 or older, (2) must be responsible \& familiar with your child's disability, (3) Must be prepared to deal with your child's behaviors, (4) must have photo I.D. available.

|  | $/$ |  | 1 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Name |  | Age |  | Relationship to student |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Name |  | Age |  | Relationship to student |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Name |  | Age | Relationship to student |  |

Unless I have indicated my child can be "self-released," I understand if I, my spouse (or other guardian), or one of the adults listed above is not present to receive my child, he/she may be returned to school provided school staff is available. As a last resort, my child may be taken to a local law enforcement agency.


Llene esta forma, fírmela y regrésela al Departamento de Transportación de OUSD.
Para su conveniencia esta forma está localizada en el sitio web-www.orangeusd.org/departments/ business-services/ transportation/students-with-special-needs. Llénela, imprímela y regrésala o envíela por correo electrónico a: buspass@orangeusd.org
(Imprima claramente)
Nombre del estudiante: $\qquad$

Escuela del estudiante: $\qquad$
Lugar de bajar/Parada de autobús autorizada:

Dirección
(Información adicional de lugar exacto de baja de autobús)

## Ciudad

código postal
Marque UNA casilla a continuación para P.M., día mínimo, día modificado, o cualquier otro arreglo de dejar el autobús:
$\square$ Entregar el estudiante a los padres/tutores SOLAMENTE.
$\square$ El estudiante es permitido llegar a su casa solo(a) con consentimiento propio.
$\square$ El estudiante puede ser permitido cuando unas de las siguientes personas están presentes para recibirlo(a). Nota - Las siguientes 3 personas deben reunir estos datos: (1) mayor de 18 años de edad, (2) Debe ser responsable y familiarizado con la discapacidad de su estudiante, (3) Estar preparado para lidiar con el comportamiento de su estudiante, (4) Y tener identificación con foto.


A menos que haiga indicado, mi hijo(a) tiene autorización de consentimiento propio, entiendo que si yo, mi esposo(a) o (otro tutor), o alguno de los adultos mencionados arriba no están presente para recibir a mi hijo, el/ellas pueden ser regresados a la escuela si hay personal presente en la escuela. Como última alternativa, mi estudiante puede ser llevado a la agencia local de cumplimiento de ley.



# ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT 

726 West Collins Avenue, Orange, CA 92867

Business Office: 714.997.6244 Dispatch: 714.997.6357
Training: 714.516.2742 Bus Pass: 714.538.8295
Vehicle Maintenance: 714.997.6196

## 7/22/2021

| To: | All Principals |
| :--- | :--- |
| From: | Christina Celeste-Russo, Director of Transportation |
| Subject: | $2021 \mathbf{- 2 0 2 2}$ School Bus Evacuation Schedule |

CA Education Code requires that all pupils in pre-k through eighth grade, who receive home-toschool transportation, receive safety instruction that includes evacuation through an emergency exit door. Our District includes pupils in higher grade levels.

Attached are the dates for all participating schools. Please be advised that all school buses arriving at your site in the a.m. on that date will be performing the evacuation drill. This will include pre-k and kindergarten buses that arrive later in the morning.

All of the evacuation drills will be supervised by the Training Department. Your site will need to have a representative available to sign the form stating the students have performed the evacuation drill. We also request an area is coned off so the traffic cannot interfere with the drill.

The evacuation drill may cause the students to run a little late to class.

Please contact the Training Department at 714-516-2742, if you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation.

ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT<br>TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT<br>726 West Collins Avenue, Orange, CA 92867 Business Office: 714.997.6244 Dispatch: 714.997.6357 Training: 714.516.2742 Bus Pass: 714.538.8295

## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY EVACUATION DRILL SCHEDULE 2021-2022

| SCHOOL SITE | EVACUATION DRILL DATE |
| :--- | :--- |
| Anaheim Hills | Tuesday, September 7, 2021 |
| California | Thursday, September 9, 2021 |
| Cambridge | Thursday, September 9, 2021 |
| Canyon Rim | Tuesday, September 14, 2021 |
| Chapman Hills | Wednesday, September 15, 2021 |
| Crescent | Thursday, September 16, 2021 |
| Esplanade | Tuesday, September 21, 2021 |
| Fairhaven | Wednesday, September 22, 2021 |
| Fletcher | Thursday, September 23, 2021 |
| Handy | Tuesday, September 28, 2021 |
| Imperial | Wednesday, September 29, 2021 |
| Jordan | Thursday, September 30, 2021 |
| La Veta | Tuesday, October 5, 2021 |
| Lampson | Wednesday, October 6, 2021 |
| Linda Vista | Thursday, October 7, 2021 |
| McPherson | Tuesday, October 12, 2021 |
| Nohl Canyon | Wednesday, October 13, 2021 |
| Olive | Thursday, October 14, 2021 |
| Palmyra | Tuesday, October 19, 2021 |
| Panorama | Wednesday, October 20, 2021 |
| Prospect | Thursday, October 21, 2021 |
| Running Springs | Tuesday, October 26, 2021 |
| Serrano | Wednesday, October 27, 2021 |
| Sycamore | Thursday, October 28, 2021 |
| Taft |  |
| Villa Park | Wednesday, November 3, 2021 |

## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY EVACUATION DRILL SCHEDULE 2021-2022

| SCHOOL SITE | EVACUATION DRILL DATE |
| :--- | :--- |
| Cerro Villa | Thursday, September 23, 2021 |
| El Rancho | Tuesday, September 14, 2021 |
| Portola | Thursday, October 28, 2021 |
| Santiago | Wednesday, September 15, 2021 |
| Yorba | Wednesday, September 8, 2021 |
|  | Wednesday, September 29, 2021 |
| Canyon High | Thursday, September 30, 2021 |
| El Modena | Thursday, September 9, 2021 |
| Orange High | Wednesday, October 27, 2021 |
| Villa Park High |  |
|  | Wednesday, November 10, 2021 |
| Adult Transition | Tuesday, November 16, 2021 |
| Canyon Hills | Thursday, November 18, 2021 |
| OUSD Pre-K | Thesday, September 28, 2021 |
| Richland | Thursday, September 30, 2021 |
|  | Tuesday, November 30, 2021 |
| Venado | Tuesday, November 9, 2021 |
| Speech and Language Dev Ctr | Wednesday, November 17, 2021 |
| ECE | Tuesday, October 12, 2021 |
| Mardan | Tuesday, November 30, 2021 |
| Port View | Tuesday, November 9, 2021 |
| University High | Wednesday, November 17, 2021 |
| New Vista | Horace Mann |

Make-up Days December 1, 2, 3, 2021

