

Prospect Heights School District 23

700 N. SCHOENBECK ROAD, PROSPECT HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60070

DISTRICT OFFICE Phone (847) 870-3850 Fax: (847) 870-3896 EISENHOWER SCHOOL Phone (847) 870-3875 Fax: (847) 870-3877 BETSY ROSS SCHOOL Phone (847) 870-3868 Fax: (847) 870-3898 ANNE SULLIVAN SCHOOL Phone (847) 870-3865 Fax: (847) 870-8113 MACARTHUR MIDDLE SCHOOL Phone (847) 870-3879 Fax: (847) 870-3881

August 10, 2018

Dear District 23 Families:

Enclosed with this letter is the Bus Route Information for your student(s). The information includes the route starting time. Please locate the bus stop closest to your residence. Versatrans Routing Software was used by First Student Transportation to generate the most efficient routing. This routing also enables the District to correctly determine students who qualify for state reimbursed transportation based on:

- Physical distance between student's home address and their school building (must be greater than 1.5 miles to qualify for state reimbursed transportation.
- Serious safety hazards on file with the Illinois Department of Transportation to qualify for state reimbursed transportation.

The District is not required by law to provide any form of transportation except in certain circumstances governed by Illinois State Statute. As the State of Illinois' reimbursement rate continues to decline, the District must continue to search out and implement cost savings. The District 23 Board of Education continues to not charge students for transportation whereas most surrounding districts do charge their students for transportation.

In an effort to run an efficient transportation system and not implement a fee per student bus rider, routes for all students have been set up at central locations using Versatrans Routing Software. Unfortunately, requests for changes in bus routes or additional stops in front of student homes cannot be honored. If a parent/guardian cannot get their children to their nearest stop for personal reasons, they will need to make other arrangements to get their students to school on time. District provided transportation is a privilege, and as such routes will not be changed to accommodate individual family needs.

A.M. Kindergartners will be picked up at either their home address or central locations and will be taken home to their address if accessible by the bus after dismissal at 11:00 a.m. P.M. Kindergartners will be picked up at their home address if accessible by the bus, but will be returned home at a central location. *Kindergartner routes are subject to change based on changes in our student population*. Please contact the Main School Office at your student's school if you have any questions regarding transportation.

The contact numbers for each school have been provided below:

SCHOOL	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School	(847) 870-3875
Betsy Ross Elementary School	(847) 870-3868
Anne Sullivan Elementary School	(847) 870-3865
Douglas MacArthur Middle School	(847) 870-3879

All students need to be at the bus stop on time and ready to board the bus. I recommend arriving at the stop <u>**10 minutes before**</u> the bus is scheduled to arrive. The first few days and in inclement weather, buses maybe running late. The safety of our students is our utmost concern in these situations. Before the first day of school, please review the rules for the buses in the appropriate student handbook which can be found on-line at the District's website (<u>www.d23.org</u>).

In addition, please review the rules for the buses with your student(s):

- 1. Parents are not to board the bus at anytime unless requested to do so.
- 2. Students must conduct themselves in a safe manner while on the school bus and not jeopardize their safety and the safety of others.
- 3. Students should be aware of their stops and be prepared to unload the bus once the driver stops the bus.
- 4. Students are to line up in an orderly fashion when getting on the bus and be at the designated stop ready to load.
- 5. Students getting on the bus first, should start seating at the back of the bus and immediately sit down.
- 6. Students are to remain seated at all times.
- 7. The eating of food will not be permitted on the bus.
- 8. Under no circumstances should a student have his/her arm or head out of the bus windows or throw anything out the windows.
- 9. Students should be respectful to each other and the driver.
- 10. At a discharge point, where it is necessary to cross the highway, proceed to a point at least ten feet in front of the bus on the right shoulder of the highway and remain there until a signal is given by the bus driver to cross.
- 11. Students are not allowed to ride on any bus other than their assigned bus for safety reasons.
- 12. Parents should not ask the driver to stop at other than the designated stops. Skateboards or roller blades are not permitted on the bus unless in closeable back packs or duffle bags.

If you should have any questions regarding the transportation in the district, please email or call me at mdebartolo@d23.org OR (847) 870-5552.

Have a great school year!!

Sincerely,

Micheal DeBartolo Business Manager

ENCLOSURE

Please contact us if you would like this communication translated into your native language. Por favor, póngase en contacto con nosotros si desea que esta comunicación traducido a su idioma nativo. Prosimy o kontakt, jeżeli chcą Państwo by wiadomość ta została przetłumaczona na Państwa język ojczysty.