



# ONEONTA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## TRANSPORTATION QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### What do I need to do if I need my child to be transported somewhere else besides home?

The driver is not allowed to pick up or drop off from an address not on record. While the District recognizes that emergencies occur, for the safety of your child, we cannot accept phone calls to change established transportation services. In addition, The Oneonta City School District Board of Education Policy D.24 is very clear that transportation of eligible students is from: "Home to School and School to Home".

### How is eligible transportation determined?

The Oneonta City School District Board of Education has established the following criteria regarding transportation eligibility as described in Policy D.24 of the Oneonta City School District Policy Manual: "The Board of Education will provide transportation from Home to School and School to Home. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 living .8 miles or more and students in Grades 9 through 12 living 1.5 miles or more from the school which they attend, will be eligible for transportation. Distance will be measured following the nearest available roadway, from school building property line to residence property line."

### What if my child leaves an item on the school bus?

The Oneonta City School District is not responsible for any items left or lost on the school bus. As part of a post check, a driver occasionally finds items on the bus and brings them either to the bus terminal office or back to the main office of the school from where the passengers were transported. In any case, please call the OCSD transportation terminal at (607)433-8205 should your child be missing an item.



**"TRANSPORTING OUR FUTURE"**



## What if I relocate from one OCSD address to another?

All parents should notify their child's school of any changes to address or telephone numbers. However, if you relocate within the OCSD and will continue **needing** transportation for your child AND you are still outside of the Board established walking distance, please let the person at your child's school **know** that you have a different address AND that your child will need transportation from the new residence. That person will make the necessary changes as well as notify the Bus Terminal Manager of the transportation change as well. PLEASE NOTE: At the elementary level, a relocation within the OCSD may require/result in a change of schools should transportation continue to be needed.

Please allow 48 hours processing time for the transportation changes to take effect.

## Do students have to wear seat belts while on OCSD transportation?

School buses are required to have belts, but kids are not required to wear them unless the BOE adopts a district policy (N.Y. Educ. 3635-a (1)).

## Who should I call if the bus does not arrive on time?

In the event your bus does not arrive as scheduled, please allow 15 minutes before you call the OCSD transportation terminal at (607) 433-8205. In the event that you do not reach anyone at the bus terminal, please call your child's school:

Greater Plains - (607) 433-8272

Riverside - (607) 433-8273

Valleyview - (607) 433-8252

Middle School - (607) 433-8262

High School - (607) 433-8243

## What do I need to do to arrange transportation?

In preparation for the transportation needs of the Oneonta City School District, you will receive a "OCSD Transportation Questions and Answers Sheet", along with a transportation request for your child/children. This form is also available on line under the "District" heading and "Transportation" from the dropdown menu. If you receive the summer mailing, you are asked to complete the survey and send it back in the self-addressed stamped envelope included. This information will help us establish efficient routes well in advance of opening day.

## What transportation is provided for students with special needs?

Transportation for students with special needs is dictated by the child's IEP (Individualized Education Plan). This plan is reviewed yearly by the Committee on Special Education and appropriate transportation is determined. The Transportation Department must adhere to the transportation requirements set forth in the IEP. If a parent feels transportation does not fit the child's needs, the parent must go before the Committee on Special Education to request a change to the IEP.

## Is there a bus monitor/ attendant on every bus?

No. Bus monitors are assigned based on specified needs as determined by an Individualized Education Plan or by behavior. Otherwise, there is no New York State requirement that bus monitors be placed on our buses.