

Pajaro Valley Unified School District
Transportation Department

“The mission of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District Transportation Department is to support students in reaching their highest potential by consistently working together to provide safe transportation within a positive atmosphere of trust for students, their families, our staff, fellow workers, and our community, while maintaining the highest standards of courtesy and professionalism.”

In order to assure safe transportation of pupils, school bus rules & regulations have been developed to define appropriate standards to be met. Our school district's policy is that any student who is disorderly in conduct, defies the school bus rules or the authority of the bus driver may be denied the privilege of school bus transportation.

SCHOOL BUS RULES AND POLICIES

BUS STOP & SCHOOL BUS RULES:

- FOLLOW BUS DRIVER DIRECTIONS
- BE COURTEOUS
- ARRIVE 5 MINUTES EARLY TO YOUR BUS STOP
- DO NOT PLAY IN THE STREET WHILE YOU WAIT FOR THE BUS
- NO BULLYING
- SHOW/SCAN YOUR BUS PASS EACH TIME YOU ENTER A BUS
- NO PROFANE LANGUAGE
- NO LOUD TALKING OR YELLING
- KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF
- KEEP YOUR BACKPACK ON YOUR LAP
- KEEP THE BUS AISLE CLEAR
- DO NOT THROW THINGS IN THE BUS
- NO EATING OR DRINKING ON THE BUS
- DO NOT PLAY AUDIO PLAYERS ON THE BUS
- EARPHONES AT LOWEST VOLUME SETTING
- NO FLASHING LIGHTS ON THE BUS
- DO NOT RECORD IMAGES/VIDEO OF OTHERS
- NO HANDS, HEAD OR LIMBS OUTSIDE OF WINDOW
- NO ITEMS OUTSIDE OF WINDOW
- DO NOT LOWER WINDOWS MORE THAN HALF WAY
- DO NOT LITTER
- DO NOT DAMAGE THE BUS
- THE BUS DRIVER MAY ASSIGN SEATS DURING THE BUS RIDE

CITATIONS:

Bus citations will be sent by our department to school administration for students with unsatisfactory conduct on the bus. This could result in consequences for your child at school and on the bus. Depending on the severity of the citation, loss of bus riding privileges could occur.

DAMAGES:

Students damaging the bus will be charged the repair costs. Invoices will be sent from the district in % the parent or guardian of the student.

STAYING SAFE ON THE SCHOOL BUS:

The driver may assign a seat at any time during the bus ride. This may be documented on a citation or it may be a warning for the student with no citation issued at the time.

Students may not change seats once the school bus has departed. Students are required to stay buckled up throughout the bus ride. **PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILD TO BUCKLE UP EVERYDAY AS SOON AS THEY FIND A SEAT.**

Only School Staff or adult chaperones are allowed to walk around in a moving bus.

No eating or drinking on the bus. All food items must be put away in a closed container or lunch bag.

- Please keep all your belongings inside of your backpack or in a closed bag.
- Please keep all your writing materials inside of your backpack as this could cause harm to you or another student in the event of an abrupt stop.
- Large items that can not fit on your child's lap or that obstruct the view of the driver are not allowed on the bus.
- Balloons are not allowed on the bus.
- SKATEBOARDS are not allowed on the bus.
- Motorized or non motorized forms of transportation are not allowed on the bus.

Our department is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items on the bus.

MORNING BUS RIDE TO SCHOOL:

Morning routes with your bus stop pick up time are available online and posted at your school site. Please arrive 5 minutes earlier than your scheduled bus stop pickup time. If the bus driver does not see you near the bus stop, the bus might leave and you may miss your bus ride to school.

Please do not approach the bus until the bus door opens. If the door is not open, the driver may still be trying to park at the bus stop. Please wait to approach the bus until the bus door is open.

AFTERNOON BUS RIDE TO HOME:

Your child's morning bus route # may not be the same bus route # to go home. Please make sure your child knows what bus route # they will be riding home each day. **Please**

know that the painted bus number on the body of the bus is not the same as the route number for the bus. The route number is interchangeable and will be on a replaceable visible card near the doorway of the bus. The number on that displayed card is the route # for that bus.

Afternoon routes are available online and posted at your school site.

Our department does not guarantee any drop off times.

Please keep in mind that even if your stop is last in the route order, your student may still be dropped off first.

If no student is on board for the other bus stops or if the driver had to reroute for some reason, the driver could potentially drive directly to your child's bus stop first.

Depending on the distance between your child's bus stop and the school, we suggest that all parents be at their child's bus stop 5-15 minutes after thier school's dismissal bell.

Kinders, pre kinders, or any student uncomfortable to get off the bus are the only students that our drivers do not leave alone at a bus stop.

MORNING & AFTERNOON BUS RIDE:

The first week of school in August, Elementary parent conference week in November, end of semester High school exam weeks, the last day of school in June and the first week of summer school are usually very unpredictable, but any given day can be unpredictable for our routes. A driver shortage is a direct daily impact that may cause delays to transportation or no transportation at all. We are also impacted by traffic, construction or bus breakdowns.

In the afternoons we can be impacted by returning students back to school from a prior school being serviced.

Everyday, as your child enters the bus at their bus stop or in the afternoon at school, all students will be required to:

- scan their bus pass,
- show their bus pass to the driver,
- promptly find a seat and buckle up.
- No changing seats.

Your child is not allowed to unbuckle and/or stand up in the bus until the bus driver is parked at the school or bus stop and opens the bus door. If the bus door is not open, the driver is not ready for your child to exit the bus.

Our department does its best to transport all students approved for PVUSD bus service, but that does not always end up being as predictable as we would wish for.

Each school day by 10am our department officially informs each school site of what is not able to be covered so that each site can inform parents how they see fit.

If your bus is running later than you usually expect the bus to arrive, you may call our department at 728-6324. We may be able to give you an estimated time for the bus to arrive at your child's bus stop.

BUS PASSES:

When you receive your student's bus pass, please check it for accuracy. Your child will be required to scan their bus pass each time they ride the bus as they enter and exit.

A student may not share a bus pass or distort the image on the pass. A damaged pass will result in the need to obtain a replacement bus pass.

Your child may only ride the bus that is transporting students from your child's bus stop. Your child may not get off at any other bus stop other than what is indicated on your child's bus pass. If you need your child to get off at a different bus stop or ride a different bus, please send a notice to your child's school office so that your child can be issued a temporary day pass by the school site. The bus can not wait for students to go back to the school office to get permission slips. Your child will need to obtain a permission slip from the office before school is dismissed.

PRE K & KINDER STUDENTS:

Pre K and Kinder students should be in the front of their bus line when school is dismissed. Pre K and Kinder students will be seated in the front of the bus. Siblings may sit with them in the front.

Pre K and Kinder students with no parent at the stop will be returned to school. (Pre K and Kinder students may be released to older siblings)

Pre K and Kinder students shall have a **BUS PASS & A KINDER TAG** each time they ride a school bus. The "Kinder Tag" is the responsibility of the school site. (This tag should have the Pre K/Kinder students name, bus stop & route number on it)

UNCOMFORTABLE ON THE BUS:

Teach your child to let the bus driver know if someone is making them or someone else feel uncomfortable on the bus. If it can wait, have your child tell the driver as they exit the bus. If it can't wait, please tell your child not to be afraid to ask for help. In an unsafe, uncomfortable or emergency situation it is ok to yell out to the driver for help. Depending on the situation, the driver may stop the bus to make sure everyone is safe.

Our goal as a department is to make sure your child has a safe and memorable experience on our school buses. If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach us at (831)728-6324

THANK YOU!

#TEAM TRANSPORTATION