



GENERAL BUS INFORMATION

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) has repeatedly determined that school buses are the safest mode of transportation to and from school, with fewer fatalities than children riding in cars, on bikes, or walking. Most school bus fatalities occur when children are outside the bus, and 75% of these fatalities involve children under the age of nine. Below are some important SLPS Policies, please review to ensure we are keeping our students safe on and off the bus.

Each of our School Buses are equipped with the following:

- 2-way radios for communication with dispatch
- 3-point seatbelts
- Integrated car seats
- 6-8 high definition security cameras with audio
- GPS tracking software
- Map Navigation
- A/C units
- Fire Extinguishers
- Rear-View backup camera (new buses)

GENERAL BUS POLICIES

- ◆ Students are granted only one bus and bus stop for both the morning and afternoon.
- ◆ We are unable to provide service to multiple stops for a student, whether for daycare, custody issues, etc.
- ◆ We serve a limited number of non-profit daycares that can become your child's established stop.
- ◆ We require our Bus Drivers to assign seats for all students.
- ◆ We expect our riders to sit in their assigned seats at all times.
- ◆ Remove Drawstrings - Clothing your children with drawstrings may not always be safe. Drawstrings can catch in playground equipment, fences, and school bus doors. Remove, shorten or replace drawstrings with another kind of fastener. In accordance with federal voluntary recalls, St. Lucie Public Schools has retrofitted all school and activity bus handrails that will not snag children's clothing.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why do I need to re-register my child for a bus...

SLPS Transportation is now requiring all students be registered to ride the bus for each school year. This policy is in place to ensure efficient and effective planning for bus routes and ridership. Click on the **Register to Ride** link on our webpage and complete the bus rider registration form.

I need to register my child for SLPS School (1st time student in this county)...

You will need to contact Student Assignment at 772-429-3930. The Main Student Assignment Office is located at the district office at 9461 Brandywine Lane ~ Port St. Lucie, FL 34986.

What time should we be at the bus stop...

All buses have a 10-minute window around schedule stop times.

(Example: If the bus stop is scheduled at 3:00pm, the bus can arrive from 2:50pm-3:10pm)

Buses will not turn around if the stop was made inside the window of time. GPS tracking to confirm.

I want to change my bus route...

We are unable to change routes. Children are assigned a bus based on the address the school has on file. You can update your address with the student's school or Student Assignment.

My child's bus stop is too far to walk...

We do our best to get the bus stops as close as we can. Our goal is to keep them .5 to 3 quarters of a mile. State Law states the stops cannot be more than 1.5 miles from the home. The bus stop that has been assigned is always the closest we have for your child.

I want a different/closer community stop...

Community Stops are designed to bring as many students to one stop as possible, therefore they are not designed for walking. We are unable to move/change/add Community Stops.

Why is the bus late?

There can be a multitude of factors that can cause a bus to run late, such as, but not limited to:

- Traffic
- Student discipline
- Breakdown
- School related delays
- Accidents
- Staff attendance
- Construction detours
- Medical emergencies onboard

Keep in mind buses tend to run late the first week or two of school as students are still being added and routes continue to change. We apologize for the bus being late and thank you for your patience as students and schools are adjusting to the new year. After week 2 of school, automated calls will be sent out to advise if your child's bus is running behind.

I need an after school bus...

We only assign busing for after school programs or club based programs when they send us a list of students that need busing. Our routers will receive the info and assign buses at that time. We cannot assign a bus for after care until we receive notification from the after-school program.

Why do I have to pick up my child at the compound?

District policy states that any child in KG, Pre-K or 1st grade cannot get off the bus unless the parent/guardian is at the stop to pick them up. If you are not at the bus stop in time to pick up your child, the bus driver will keep the child on board and bring them into the compound.

The policy is strictly enforced for the protection/safety of children, no exceptions are made for this.