



TRANSPORTATION



STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES



TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE



If you require assistance while visiting a District 211 school, please contact the principal's office.

For individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, please access the following TTD/TTY telephone number: (847) 755-6654.

Your High School District 211 Student Transportation Services

High School District 211 operates one of Illinois' largest school-owned bus fleets. Approximately 160 buses and vans transport nearly 9,000 students, travelling more than 7,700 miles each day.

Free Riders

High School District 211 provides free bus transportation for students who live more than 1½ miles from their school. This service is available at no cost to students because the district receives partial reimbursement from the State of Illinois.

Pay Riders

Students who live within 1½ miles of their school may ride the bus for a nominal fee. The district receives no state funding for these students. In May of each year, pay rider applications are mailed to the parents of incoming freshmen. Transfer students or upperclassmen who did not choose the pay rider option during their freshman year should call the Transportation Office to make arrangements to ride the school bus. Applications for school bus service are sent on request. Bus fees may be paid by mail or in person at the High School District 211 Administration Center on Roselle Road.

Bus Pass

A school identification card serves as a student's bus pass. Students must show the pass to ride the bus. A lost pass may be reissued at the school for a nominal fee.

Routes and Stops

Bus routes and stops are determined on the basis of safety, efficiency, and the number of students to be transported in a given area. Bus routes, stops or times may be altered slightly if student ridership changes during the course of the school year. Contact the Transportation Office if route or stop alterations create a hardship for you or your student.

Scheduled bus route stop times are set as a general guide. Buses do not stop more than every block (corner) in urban areas. Students must be at their bus stop at least **five** minutes before the scheduled pick up time. If the bus does not arrive on schedule, students should wait until the bus does arrive.

Inclement Weather Procedures

Buses may run late during inclement weather. Students should be patient and wait for the bus to arrive. Announcements are made on local radio stations when school is cancelled due to severe weather conditions.

Late Afternoon Bus

Late afternoon buses leave school 75 minutes after regular dismissal. Students with valid bus passes who stay after school under teacher or coach supervision may ride home on a *late afternoon bus* on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Before boarding, students must present a pass from the supervising teacher or coach.

Evening Bus

Evening buses leave school two hours and 40 minutes after regular dismissal. Students with valid bus passes who stay after school under teacher or coach supervision may ride home on an *evening bus* any weekday if they are practicing for or competing in a current event. Before boarding, students must present a pass from the supervising teacher or coach.

Vocational Programs

Students involved in eligible off-campus vocational programs during the school day receive bus transportation to and from these sites.

Field Trips

Bus transportation is provided to students and chaperones for all approved academic field trips.

Athletic and Activity Use

Athletic teams and activity clubs use transportation service for special events and trips.

Certified School Bus Mechanics

High School District 211 bus mechanics are certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence.



Driver Qualifications

All High School District 211 bus drivers are licensed by the Secretary of State and by the Illinois State Board of Education. To qualify for a school bus license, a driver must:

- *have a background check including fingerprinting*
- *have a good driving record*
- *obtain a Commercial Driver's License (C.D.L.)*
- *be at least 21 years old*
- *complete a state-mandated eight-hour school bus safety course*
- *demonstrate safe behind-the-wheel driving skills*
- *complete a two-hour school bus safety refresher course each year*
- *pass an annual physical examination — including a drug test*
- *participate in random drug/alcohol testing*

High School District 211 provides workshops for drivers on topics such as bus safety, maintenance, defensive driving, and inclement weather driving.

Fleetwatch Program

High School District 211 bus drivers are members of the *Fleetwatch* team. The basic concept of *Fleetwatch* is to have employees who operate a radio-equipped vehicle act as an additional set of “eyes and ears” for local police departments. Any driver seeing any suspicious activity will radio the information to the appropriate central dispatcher, who will then contact local police with the information.

Student Safety and Behavior

Students should be cautious when entering or exiting the bus. For safety, students must cross the road ten (10) feet in front of the bus only while the stop arm is out and flashers are operating.

All school rules apply on the bus. In addition, students must:

- *be courteous*
- *stay seated*
- *keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus*
- *cooperate with the school bus driver*
- *avoid using profane or obscene language*
- *refrain from eating, drinking, and/or smoking*
- *keep the bus clean and free from defacement or damage*
- *use extreme caution when exiting the bus to assure that clothing, purses, or bookbags do not get snagged in the handrail or door*
- *be aware that the “danger zones” are the areas within 10 feet of the front, sides, and rear of the bus; if in one of these areas, the bus driver cannot see you; stay clear of these danger zones to avoid serious injury*

The school bus driver is authorized to assign seats. Students must surrender their bus pass at the request of the driver.

In most discipline cases, the driver will talk with the student after the first incident. After a second incident, the driver will file a written discipline referral with the school administrator. The administrator may retain, cancel, or suspend a student’s bus pass for a limited time or indefinitely. Students are required to attend school even if their bus pass has been suspended.

How Parents Can Help

- *See that your children are at the bus stop five minutes early*
- *Encourage and support school bus safety rules*
- *Be a good safety example for your children*

Bus Safety Standards

High School District 211 school buses meet and exceed strict safety standards set by State and Federal regulations. All vehicles are equipped with two-way radios and are in contact with the District 211 Transportation Office at all times.

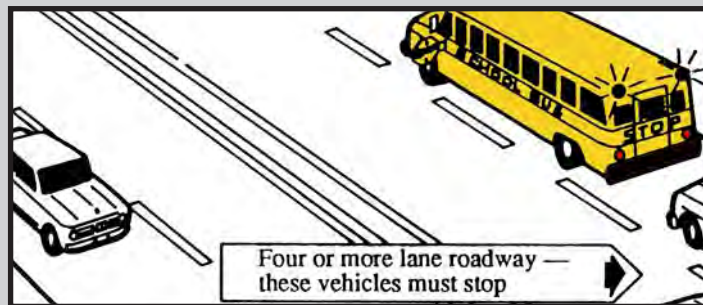
All High School District 211 school buses are equipped with a first aid kit, bodily fluid kit, and a fire extinguisher. At least twice a year, students receive emergency bus evacuation information.

Each school bus is required to have:

- *detailed pre-trip safety inspection by the driver each day*
- *preventive maintenance and safety inspection every 5,000 miles*
- *inspection at a State-licensed safety lane facility every six months*
- *major safety and maintenance inspection each year or every 10,000 miles, whichever comes first*

How Motorists Can Help

Motorists must stop before meeting or passing a school bus that is loading or unloading passengers. A warning of flashing amber lights on the front and rear of the bus will be given at least 100 feet in advance of a stop. The lights will then flash red and the stop signal arm will be extended after the school bus has come to a complete stop. Motorists must then come to a complete stop. Motorists may proceed when the bus resumes motion. Motorists also may proceed when the flashing lights are turned off and the stop signal arm is no longer extended. *Driving privileges will be suspended if motorists are convicted of illegally passing a stopped school bus.*



Bus Service for Special Education Students

Most special education students attend a District 211 high school and are transported on a regular bus route. However, bus transportation also is provided for District 211 students who attend classes at District 211 Alternative School, Hersey High School, Kirk Center, Miner School, and District 211 Supportive Learning Center.

Because these students have unique needs, special education transportation is jointly coordinated by the Transportation Director and the Special Education Director. Special education students are expected to be ready when the driver arrives. Please



notify the Transportation Office of an address change or extended illness. The Transportation Office needs five school days to implement route changes. Failure to give advance notice of a move could cause delay in receiving bus service. If a special education student misses the bus for five consecutive days without the parent contacting the driver or Transportation Office, bus service will be stopped until the parent calls to have service reinstated.

Need More Information?

District 211 Transportation Department
1750 South Roselle Road, Palatine, IL 60067-7336
(847) 755-6796 • adc.d211.org



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