



Le Roy Central School District

Merritt Holly, Superintendent of Schools
mholly@leroycsd.org

Board of Education

Jacalyn Whiting, President
Denise Duthe, Vice President
Christine Dowell
Richard Lawrence
Peter Loftus
William MacKenzie
Lloyd Miller

2-6 Trigon Park
Le Roy, New York 14482

Phone (585) 768-8133
Fax (585) 768-5505

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Le Roy Central School District Parents/Guardians:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a clear rationale and timeline behind the transportation procedure changes the District has implemented for the start of the 2019 – 2020 academic school year. Lastly and most importantly, I have provided the procedure changes and a few examples.

Timeline:

Starting with a letter that was sent to your home on June 18, 2019, we initiated the process of asking every family in the district to update their 2019 – 2020 transportation plan for each child either electronically or by mail. The form offered four (4) options for transportation:

1. Bus (AM or PM)
2. Parent (AM or PM)
3. Walker (AM or PM)
4. Student Driver (AM or PM)

On August 19, 2019, a second letter was sent home that included a blue sheet which clearly stated the mode of transportation you requested for your child. If your child was riding the bus, pick up and drop off locations and approximate times were included. At this point in the summer, we had still not received information from a large number of district families on what their transportation plan was going to be for the start of school in September. Therefore, if you were one of those families, bus transportation for your child defaulted to your home address.

Rationale: (Our main goal is student safety)

In the past, the Wolcott Street School Main Office was being inundated daily with both written notes and phone calls from parents/guardians requesting transportation changes for their child. Some of these requests came throughout the day, but a good portion of them would come after 2:30 PM. The late timing and volume of phone calls makes it next to impossible to effectively communicate changes to both teachers and bus drivers. As you can imagine, these few examples have created potential safety issues and concerns for our students in an attempt to get each individual student to their correct drop off location after school.

At the Jr/Sr High School, transportation issues are much different and do not present the same problems as they do at Wolcott Street School. First and foremost, our Jr/Sr High School students are older, and a higher percentage (over 55%) of our Jr/Sr High School population stay after school with a teacher, and/or are participating in an extra-curricular activity each afternoon. Though the procedure changes are K – 12 based, as a District, we have placed a greater emphasis on monitoring our K – 6 students because of their age.

To improve upon student safety at dismissal at Wolcott Street School, we have instituted a number of changes behind the scenes. Our teachers are taking and noting attendance at the end of the instructional day and specifically walking their classes to the three (3) designated drop-off locations in each building. Furthermore,

The mission of the Le Roy Central School District is to provide an exceptional, high quality educational environment where all learners are empowered to succeed.

our bus drivers are taking afternoon attendance and finalizing their daily rosters with office staff and administration before they are cleared to start their afternoon bus route.

Transportation Procedure Changes:

- **We are not accepting daily transportation changes.** What does that mean? Here are few examples of changes **we are unable to make:**
 - Child is signed up for the bus, but because it is a nice day, parent calls/sends note and says child can walk.
 - Child is signed up to ride Bus J, but parent calls/writes note and gives the okay for their child to ride with a friend who rides on another bus - Bus M.
 - Child is signed up for the bus, but parent has off today and calls/sends note and says child can walk. **This IS NOT an acceptable change unless parent comes in and signs child out before or at the end of the day.**
 - Child is signed up for the bus, parent has off today and calls/sends note wanting child to meet them outside. **This change IS NOT acceptable unless parent comes in and signs child out before or at end of the day.**

Here are a few examples of changes **we are able to make:**

- Child rides the bus but has a doctor appointment after school and parent calls/sends note to have child meet them in parking lot. **This is an acceptable change but parent must come in and sign child out.**
 - Child rides Bus N on Monday to home, but there will be no parent at home. Parent calls/sends note that child must ride Bus O to babysitter. **This is an acceptable change because there is no parent at home.**
 - Child is signed up for bus, walker, or parent pick up, and parent calls/sends a note wanting their child to stay for an after school program at WSS or the Woodward Library. **This is an acceptable change because it is an after school program.**
- Understanding that emergency or extenuating situations do occur/happen, parents can call or send a detailed note to the main office about making a transportation change for that day. Administration will review the request/concern and approve or deny the request accordingly.
 - Transportation request changes can be made at two other times during the year:

Transportation Date Range	Change Must Be Received By:
November 4 th – March 6 th	October 25th
March 9 th – June 24 th	February 28th

As a school, we understand that these transportation changes may not meet everyone’s specific need and that you may be inconvenienced. Our goal behind these changes is to create a safer, more efficient system for our student dismissal. In the first week of school, we have tangible evidence observing and talking with our teachers, drivers, secretaries, administration, parents, and most importantly our students, that we have a safer and more efficient system in place.

Sincerely,



Merritt Holly