



# ASD

## Arkansas School for the Deaf

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Once again we will soon start the school year and I want to welcome each student back to ASD. We hope you and your children have had a good summer and are looking forward to the start of the school year. Enclosed are several pieces of information related to the transportation of your child. Please be sure to read through these pages and talk with your child about the importance of following all the related rules and policies.

With your help at home, we believe our student passengers will more fully realize the importance of their actions in going to and from bus stops, and while on the bus.

We suggest that you follow these recommendations and stress their importance with your children:

- Get your children to their bus stop **no less than 10 minutes before the established pick-up time.**
- Be sure your children are properly dressed during bad weather. Unfortunately, buses are often delayed on such days. The bus WILL arrive. However, if children are properly dressed they will not suffer or become ill.
- Train your children NOT to expect traffic to stop for the bus's red flashers or the stop arms. Drivers can become distracted and may not always be watching for them. Children should always **STOP AND LOOK before crossing the street.**
- Stay seated and reasonably quiet while on the bus.

With your support and cooperation at home, safe and efficient transportation for students will continue.

### **REMEMBER: ONE WAY ON OUR CAMPUS**

In an effort to keep the students safer during bus unloading and loading times, we have change the direction of traffic flow on our campus. During these times, anyone driving on our campus will have to follow the new traffic flow making it safer for the students during bus times.

Traffic flow has changed during the times listed below on our campus and is shown in the included map.

Monday – Friday: 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. ONE WAY RIGHT

Monday – Friday: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ONE WAY LEFT

All other times traffic can flow two ways as before.

Also there will be NO PARKING in the middle section of the parking lot between Boys Dorm/Middle School, which will now be a bus zone for 2 lanes of buses, one for regular buses and one for handicap buses. There will also no longer be parking along the side of the road by Breeding Cafeteria, if you stop momentarily to drop your child off that is permitted as long as it follows the new traffic flow but no vehicle may be left along this area

without a driver, if you are picking up your child we ask that you park your vehicle in any of our parking lots and walk to pick them up, letting a staff member know. This should be the protocol for any persons picking up a child, sign them out and inform a staff member with them, a child cannot simply be allowed to get in a recognizable or any other vehicle due to safety concerns.

### TRANSPORTATION FOR DAY STUDENTS

Each local school district will be managing transportation for students who reside in that district. Bus routes are now currently being established. **Listed below you will find a list of local districts and the phone number for each district.**

*You need to call the school district you and your child reside in and speak with their Transportation Director to inform them of your child's needs.*

<b>LRSD: 501-447-7550</b>	<b>BRYANT: 501-847-5601</b>	<b>PINE BLUFF: 870-543-4265</b>
<b>NLRSD: 501-340-5150</b>	<b>BENTON: 501-776-5706</b>	<b>DOLLARWAY: 870-534-8478</b>
<b>PCSSD: 501-234-2916</b>	<b>SHERIDAN: 870-942-5522</b>	<b>WHITE HALL: 870-247-2171</b>
<b>JAXNP: 501-241-2163</b>	<b>CABOT: 501-743-3531</b>	<b>FAITHCARE: 501-309-5828</b>

### TRANSPORTATION FOR RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS

The Arkansas School for the Deaf will send all residential students home by chartered bus service or state van each week. This service is provided as a convenience to the students and their families at no cost to either. The company with the contract for our chartered bus service is T-Star Limousines & Coaches.

***(PLEASE SEE ATTACHED ROUTE SCHEDULES)***

This is a costly endeavor and because we are genuinely concerned about the safety and well-being of each student, the Arkansas School for the Deaf has developed some policy guidelines for the use of the buses, and a conduct code for passengers.

The transportation policy applies to all weekend vehicles, whether charter bus or state vans. Parents and students must read this policy and the conduct code.

The policy and conduct code have been established to ensure the safety of each student, and therefore each must be followed carefully. If students choose to be disruptive or to break the rules they will be subject to disciplinary action handled by their appropriate Dormitory Houseparent Supervisor, Campus Life Director, and/or school Principal, with a copy of the conduct notice sent to you. If the disciplinary action involves a suspension of riding privileges, an I.E.P. meeting will be established to determine how to handle transportation.

Part of ensuring the safety of the student we require Parents/Guardians to sign the students on and off the bus each Friday and Sunday and show proper ID if asked, and also pick up and sign for any medication that the student may have from the bus chaperone or give any medication that the student may have to the bus chaperone- **Please DO NOT leave medication with students or in bags.**

If you have any questions or need assistance please feel free to contact me at (501) 324-9754 or (501) 324-9508, Weekend Transportation Phone (501) 324-9536 Friday afternoon through Sunday night and FAX (501) 324-8550.

Sincerely,



Steve Partridge, Director of Transportation