

**Dr. Patricia Garcia, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools  
355 High Street, Unit B  
Willimantic, CT 06226  
(860) 465-2310  
pGarcia@windham.k12.ct.us



**Margaret Chatey**  
Public Information Officer  
355 High Street, Unit B  
Willimantic, CT 06226  
(860) 465-2105  
mChatey@windham.k12.ct.us

## **Press Release**

**For immediate release**

Media Contact: Margaret Chatey  
[mChatey@windham.k12.ct.us](mailto:mChatey@windham.k12.ct.us)  
(860) 465-2105 Office  
(860) 771-1224 Cell

### **Parents of Windham Students Up to Grade 2 Reminded That Students Must be Accompanied at Bus Stops**

Windham, CT August 26, 2019– Windham Public Schools is taking special efforts to remind parents of students in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, grade 1 and grade 2 that their children will not be dropped off at a bus stop unless a parent or another authorized person is present. New Board of Education policy adopted last year requires students in grades PreK-2 to be accompanied by an authorized person at the bus stop in this school year starting on Wednesday, August 28.

“The Board of Education felt strongly that children who are 7 and younger should not be dropped off at the end of a driveway or at a busy street intersection without having an older person to ensure they get to their home safely,” says Dr. Patricia Garcia, Superintendent of Schools.

“We know that this may be inconvenient for some parents, but we believe each family can find a friend, another child’s parent or an older sibling who will be at the school bus stop in the morning and afternoon for these young children. Safety is our most important concern with all of our students,” Dr. Garcia adds.

If there is no one to meet a young child, she/he will be returned to school and the parent will be contacted. This experience can make young children anxious, and does delay additional bus assignments, but is a necessary precaution. Parents are asked to inform the school in writing who the authorized person will be if it is not the parent or an older sibling so it can be communicated to the bus driver.

This reminder was emphasized in a transportation letter mailed home to all families last week. The bus schedule was published in The Chronicle on Saturday, August 24, and is also posted on the district’s website under Latest News on the Home page at windhamps.org. If parents have any transportation-related questions about the start of school, they are encouraged to call Yadira Soto, Transportation Coordinator at 860-465-2520.

###