

Pennsylvania School Bus Stopping Laws

- When you meet or overtake a stopped school bus with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
- When you approach an intersection where a school bus is stopped with red signal lights flashing and stop arm extended, you **MUST STOP**.
- You **MUST STOP** at least ten (10) feet away from the school bus.
- You **MUST WAIT** until the red lights have stopped flashing and the stop arm has been withdrawn before moving.
- **DO NOT MOVE** until all the children have reached a place of safety.

**Please help keep
our students safe!**



Contact Info

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Muhlenberg School District

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Bus Rules & FAQs



MUHLENBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT
Department of Transportation

"Moving students toward success!"

#GoMuhls

Eligibility

Students Eligible for Transportation: Elementary students that live beyond the 1.5 mile walk zone and secondary students that live beyond the 2.0 mile walk zone, or live on a road deemed hazardous by the Penn DOT, are eligible for district transportation.

Specialized Transportation: Students that have transportation within their IEP or 504 plan are eligible for transportation.

McKinney-Vento Act: Students afforded the supports provided by the McKinney-Vento Act are also afforded transportation.

Bus Riding Rules

Students are expected to follow a few basic rules while riding on district transportation:

- 1) Sit in their assigned seat (elementary) and stay seated while the bus is moving.
- 2) Face forward in the seated position.
- 3) Keep voices at a low, non-distracting level.
- 4) No eating or drinking for personal safety.

Bus Behaviors

District transportation is an extension of the school day and all school rules and district policies apply. Failure to follow the rules could lead to progressive consequences including, but not limited to:

- 1) A verbal warning
- 2) A written warning
- 3) Temporary removal from the bus
- 4) Permanent removal from the bus

Bus Referrals

A student may receive a Bus Referral if their behavior, while on transportation or at the bus stop, is inconsistent with bus, school or district rules and policies. All Bus Referrals are forwarded to the attention of school administration.

Assigned Seats

All elementary students, K-6, have a specific seat assigned to them on district transportation. Seat assignments are created by Muhlenberg and enforced by the driver and school administration. Drivers have the right to temporarily move any student from their assigned seat to quell a disturbance or safety.

Z-Pass

A Z-pass is issued to all students that are assigned district transportation. A Z-pass is an RFID card that students keep in their possession and scan each time they enter and exit the bus or van—up to four times per day. Students are issued one free Z-pass at the time they register in the district. Lost or replaced Z-passes incur a \$5.00 fee.

Parents and guardians have the ability to know if their child scanned on/off a bus and locate where their child's bus is on their daily route, by downloading the Zonar MyView app to their personal mobile device. For more information on this feature, go to the Muhlenberg web site.

Kindergarten

District Policy states that all kindergarten students assigned to district transportation are always met by a responsible person at the afternoon bus stop, drop-off location. Kindergarten students not met by a responsible person, nor parent contact, will be brought back to Muhlenberg Elementary Center.

To exclude your kindergarten student from this district policy, or for questions, contact Muhlenberg Elementary Center administration.

"A person who enters a school bus without prior authorization of the driver or a school official with intent to commit a crime or disrupt or interfere with the driver or a person who enters a school bus without prior authorization of the driver or a school official who refuses to disembark after being ordered to do so by the driver commits a misdemeanor of the third degree." -PA Code, Section 5517.0 Title 18

FAQs

Why does my child's bus not come at the same time each day?

Traffic delays, road construction, accidents, and the number of students getting picked-up and dropped-off, can affect bus schedules. It is very difficult to provide an exact time. **We ask that students be at their assigned stop 10 minutes before their scheduled time. Students should wait for their bus up to 10 minutes after the scheduled bus arrival.** As the year progresses, students are added and removed which also changes pick-up and drop off times.

Can my child get transportation with a doctor's note?

Any special provisions being sought for transportation, such as a doctor's note, should be addressed to school administration or the school nurse. The Muhlenberg DOT will immediately accommodate transportation once the provision is within an IEP or a 504 plan.

Am I permitted to watch bus surveillance video?

For the protection of all students as outlined in the Federal Education Rights Provisions Act (FERPA), only Muhlenberg and BCIU administration are authorized to watch bus video.

