

Duval County Public Schools

Transportation

School Year 2020 – 2021

COVID-19 Bus Ridership Guidelines

The impact of COVID – 19 and Emergency Order 2020-EO-06 has caused rapid and difficult decisions to be made to meet the mission of *providing educational excellence in every school, in every classroom, for every student, every day*. The information compiled in this document has been compiled to provide procedural guidance. This document can be reviewed and revised as needed to provide fair, firm and consistent transportation services. Please check and apply all updates by CDC and HHS guidelines to ensure compliance with current standards.

OUTLINED BELOW ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND MITIGATION STRATEGY GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION.

Field Trips

All mitigation strategies outlined below apply to field trip transportation. In addition, the following steps should be taken by each Field Trip Sponsor to assist with mitigation:

- At the beginning of each trip, the Trip Sponsor will provide the student roster to document ridership. (Contact tracing).
- Limit ridership of each bus to 26.
- Load students starting at the rear of the bus to the front. This will reduce student contact.
- Unload the students starting at the front of the bus to the rear.
- Ensure all riders remain in their seats and keep their masks on during the entire trip

Students, School Officials, Operators and Monitors Responsibilities

Self-Monitor

All passengers should self-monitor and not board the bus if they have COVID-19 symptoms. Individuals who have had any of the following symptoms in the preceding 72 hours will not be permitted on the bus:

- Temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- Respiratory symptoms where not attributed to other health conditions: Dry repeated cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing
- Non-respiratory symptoms, where not attributed to another health condition: chills, muscle pain, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell

Face Coverings

Meeting CDC guidance for social distancing on a school bus is not possible. Because of this, face coverings will be required on bus. This includes loading and unloading the school bus.

Hand Sanitizer

Each bus will be equipped with hand sanitizing materials. Students, school officials, operators and monitors are asked to sanitize their hands each time they board the bus.

Bus Operations

- During operation, the driver's window and 6-passenger windows (3-per side) should be open 1-inch to allow for fresh air to flow through the bus
- Use the student roster to document ridership. (Contact tracing)
- In the event that a student, operator or bus monitor is found to have tested positive for COVID-19, the bus will be placed in an "Out of Service" status. The bus should be quarantined for 24 hours and the interior thoroughly cleaned before the bus can be returned to service after the approval of Terminal Management.

School Bus Cleaning

Each school bus is used for multiple trips each day. High-touch point areas, such as seats and handrails, will be disinfected between each bus trip. At the end of each day, every bus will be sanitized.