

New Pathways

HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

New Possibilities

Erskine R. Glover
Superintendent of Schools

Kimberly Cook
President - Board of Education

Matthew Leonardis

Transportation Coordinator
908-352-7664 ext. 6453
MLeonardis@hillsidek12.org

The 2022-2023 school year for the Union County Vocational-Technical School, Magnet High School and the Academy Schools starts on Tuesday September 6, 2022. All students riding the buses are asked to arrive 10 minutes prior to the bus departure time at Hillside High School (there are no late buses). Your child's daily transportation schedule is as follows:

7:15AM the School Buses leave Hillside High School for Vo-Tech, Magnet HS and the Academy Schools. The bus stop is located on Livingston Road in front of the Hillside High School gym doors. These buses are for students enrolled in the AM and all day sessions.

10:07AM the Hillside school bus will pick up the students enrolled in the AM session at Vo-Tech and return the students to Hillside High School (in the parking lot near the library).

12:00PM the Hillside School Bus leaves the Hillside High School parking lot (near cafeteria) for Vo-Tech. This is the bus for students who attend the PM session at Vo-Tech.

2:50PM the School Buses will pick up students enrolled in the all day and PM sessions at Vo-Tech, Magnet HS the Academy Schools and return the students to Hillside High School. The buses will drop the students off on Livingston Road in front of the Hillside High School gym doors.

Please refer to the following page regarding the procedure for delayed school openings and school closings due to inclement weather or unforeseen events.

The procedure for early closing will be addressed by the Vo-Tech, Magnet HS or the Academy Schools.

If you have any questions, please give me a call. My number is listed above.

Thank you.

New Pathways

HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

New Possibilities

*Matthew Leonardis
Transportation Coordinator*

Updated Inclement Weather Transportation Practice for the UVCTS and David Brearley School

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please refer to the following updated inclement weather transportation practices letter from the Union County Educational Services Commission (UCESC) Transportation Department.

The UCESC is the agency that the Hillside school district utilizes for providing the buses for both the Union County Vocational Technical Schools in Scotch Plains as well as the David Brearley Middle/High School in Kenilworth, NJ.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 908-352-7664 ext. 6453.

Thank you.



Building Partnerships for Tomorrow

Union County Educational
Services Commission
45 Cardinal Drive
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
Phone: 908-233-9317
Fax: 908-233-7432
Transportation Fax: 908-518-1669

Michael J. Kowalski
Acting Superintendent
mjkowalski@ucesc.org

Eric Larson
Business Administrator
Board Secretary
el Larson@ucesc.org

Lorraine Vitiello
Transportation Coordinator
lvitiello@ucesc.org

TO: PARENTS OF STUDENTS TRANSPORTED THROUGH THE UNION COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION'S COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

SUSPENSION OF TRANSPORTATION ON DAYS OF INCLEMENT WEATHER – Now that winter is approaching, it is time to discuss how you, as Parent or Guardian, may best secure the most accurate information regarding school closings or late openings on days of inclement weather, and how they affect your child's transportation to school.

The Commission has established procedures which insure that transportation Contractors transporting students through the County Coordinated Transportation Program receive prompt notification on all days that your child's transportation to school has been suspended or delayed.

It is also advisable that you check the website of your child's school, sign up with your child's schools emergency notification system, contact your school directly, or call your bus company. We ask that you be **GUIDED** by the following:

1. **DECISION OF THE SCHOOL YOUR CHILD ATTENDS** – If it is announced that the school your child attends will be closed because of inclement weather, **ALL TRANSPORTATION TO THAT SCHOOL WILL BE SUSPENDED.**
2. **DECISION OF YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT** – If it is announced that public schools in YOUR DISTRICT/TOWN IN WHICH YOU LIVE will be closed because of inclement weather, but the school your child attends is open, then transportation **WILL NOT BE PROVIDED.**
3. **DELAYED OPENINGS** – Delayed openings follow the same schedule as school closings in that if the school your child attends has a delayed opening, then your child's pick-up time will also be delayed by the length of time the delay varies from the normal opening time. If the district in which you reside has a delayed opening, then more than likely your child's transportation will also be delayed. However, since many coordinated routes combine districts that may have differing schedules on days of inclement weather, you should check with your bus company on these days to find out your child's schedule.

Students that attend Union County Educational Services Commission schools can check the status at WWW.UCESC.ORG (Crossroads, Lamberts Mill Academy, Hillcrest Academy South, Hillcrest Academy North and Westlake)

(VEA EN EL REVERSO PARA ESPAÑOL.)

InclementWeatherLtr 21-22.doc

Union County Educational Services Commission
www.ucesc.org



Building Partnerships for Tomorrow

Union County Educational Services Commission
45 Cardinal Drive
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
Phone: 908-233-9317
Fax: 908-233-7432
Transportation Fax: 908-518-1669

Michael J. Kowalski
Acting Superintendent
mjkowalski@ucesc.org

Eric Larson
Business Administrator
Board Secretary
el Larson@ucesc.org

Lorraine Vitiello
Transportation Coordinator
lvitiello@ucesc.org

PARA: PADRES DE ESTUDIANTES TRANSPORTADOS A TRAVES DEL PROGRAMA COORDINADO POR LA COMISION DE SERVICIOS EDUCATIVOS DEL CONDADO DE UNION.

SUSPENSION DE TRANSPORTACION DURANTE DIAS DE MAL TIEMPO – Ya que el invierno está a llegar, es tiempo de discutir como usted, como padre o Tutor, puede asegurar la mejor información acerca del cierre de escuelas o horario con atraso en días de mal tiempo, y como afectan la transportación a la escuela de su niño a.

La Comisión ha establecido procedimientos que asegura que contratantes de transportación que transporta estudiantes por el Programa de Transportación Coordinado por el Condado reciban notificación inmediata todos los días que la transportación de su niño a ha sido suspendida o atrasada.

Además le aconsejamos que usted consulte el sitio web de la escuela de su niño a, y también se registre en el sistema de notificación de emergencia de la escuela, contacte a su escuela directamente, o llame a su compañía de autobús. Le pedimos que usted se GUTE por lo siguiente:

1. **DECISION DE LA ESCUELA QUE SU NIÑO/A ASISTE** – Si anuncian que la escuela que asiste (para escuelas privadas o de educación especial), serán cerradas por las condiciones del tiempo, **TODA TRANSPORTACION HACIA ESA ESCUELA SERA SUSPENDIDA.**
2. **DECISION DE SU DISTRITO ESCOLAR PUBLICO LOCAL.** – Si es anunciado que las escuelas públicas en SU DISTRITO CIUDAD EN QUE USTED RESIDE será cerrado por las condiciones del tiempo, pero la escuela que su niño a asiste está abierta, transportación NO SERA PROVEIDA.
3. **ESCUELA CON HORARIO ATRASADO** – Horario atrasado sigue el mismo horario de escuelas cerradas en que si la escuela que su niño a asiste tiene horario atrasado, entonces la hora en que recogen a su niño a también será atrasada por el tiempo en que el retraso varíe del horario normal. Si el distrito en que usted reside tiene horario atrasado, entonces es muy posible que la transportación de su niño a también sea atrasada. Sin embargo, como muchas rutas coordinadas combinan distritos que tengan diferentes horarios durante días de mal tiempo, usted debe de chequear con su compañía de autobús esos días para averiguar el horario de su niño a.

Estudiantes que atienden las escuelas de Union County Educational Services Commission pueden comprobar el estado en WWW.UCESC.ORG (Crossroads, Lamberts Mill Academy, Hillcrest Academy South, Hillcrest Academy North and Westlake.

HILLSIDE TRANSPORTATION GUIDE

RULES and REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations have been developed to insure the safest, most enjoyable, an efficient transportation for all passengers. This list of Rules and Regulations obviously does not encompass ever possible infraction that may result in disciplinary actions or suspension of riding privileges.

TO AID IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF RULES, HILLSIDE BOE WILL USE VIDEO SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT ON THE BUSES AT RANDOM.

PRIOR TO BOARDING THE SCHOOL BUS, EACH PASSENGER SHALL:

1. Arrive at their designated stop 10 minutes early.
2. Stay out of the road and do not loiter on or damage or destroy surrounding property while waiting for the bus.
3. Refrain from horseplay activities, such as throwing snowballs and other objects or hitting or kicking others.
4. Wait for the school bus to come to a complete stop before attempting to board the bus.
5. Walk toward the bus - do not run in an effort to be the first to board the bus. Board one at a time in single file.
6. Always watch for oncoming traffic before crossing the street. Maintain eye contact with the driver and cross only after receiving a hand signal from the driver.

WHILE RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS, EACH PASSENGER SHALL:

1. Walk onto the bus one at a time and sit down quietly.
2. Obey the school bus driver and do not do anything which will take the driver's attention away from their driving.
3. Place books and instruments at their bus seat.
4. Sit facing forward with their feet on the floor in front of them at all times.
5. Not put any part of their body out of the window or throw anything out of the window.
6. Report any damage to the bus to the bus driver at once.

The following activities ARE NOT PERMITTED and will result in a one (1) to ten (10) day minimum suspension of riding privileges on the first offense. (No Warning Required):

1. Throwing any object out of the bus.
2. Eating, chewing gum or drinking.
3. Lighting matches or lighters on the bus.
4. Carrying on to the bus and/or using rubber bands, spit wads, water guns, water balloons, snowballs, knives or any weapons, etc.
5. Playing any audio or video devise out loud (personal units with head sets are acceptable).
6. Possession or use of alcohol, drugs, drug paraphernalia, cigarettes, or chewing tobacco while on the bus.
7. Shouting, using profanity or derogatory language, or name calling.

8. Moving about the school bus while it is in motion, kneeling, standing, or sitting backward in the seat.
9. Distracting the bus driver's attention away from their driving.
10. Causing harm, injury or threat of harm or injury to any other bus passenger.
11. Putting any part of the body out of the window.
12. Damaging or defacing the school bus (Hillside BOE will be reimbursed for damage before riding privileges are reinstated).
13. Laser Pointers are ABSOLUTELY NOT allowed on the bus.

AFTER LEAVING THE SCHOOL BUS EACH PASSENGER SHALL:

1. Walk while getting off the bus – do not rush or push while the bus is unloading.
2. Always watch and check for other vehicles before crossing the street.
3. Walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus when crossing the street so that the bus driver can see the passenger. Maintain eye contact with the driver and wait for a hand signal before crossing. Stop before leaving the protection of the bus and look both ways before continuing. Crossing the street to load or unload is a partnership between the driver and students – each are responsible for a safe crossing.
4. Get permission from the driver before picking up a dropped item anywhere near the bus. When a student bends over to pick up a dropped item the driver loses sight of them.
5. Proceed directly from the bus stop to home.
6. Refrain from horseplay activities, such as throwing snowballs and other objects or hitting or kicking others.

PLEASE NOTE:

- If you only want your child to be transported to school in the morning, please notify your child's school making them aware that you do not want your child to ride home on the bus after school. The school will affix a high visibility label on your child's bus pass to denote the specific arrangements you have requested.
- In the morning, students must not be dropped off earlier than 10 minutes before the bus is scheduled to pick up. We are not responsible for before school childcare and we do not have the resources to provide it.
- Students must be picked up promptly at dismissal time at school or at their bus arrival. We are not responsible for extended after-school childcare and we do not have the resources to provide it.
- Because we take the safety of children most seriously, there are serious consequences for dropping your child off too early in the morning or failing to pick up your child at school dismissal or bus arrival times. A transportation suspension may be issued and/or you may be assessed a monetary fine.
- If you have any questions, please contact the school your child attends.

HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Re: HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUS TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Please be advised that the Hillside Public Schools only allows authorized students and staff to board the District's school buses. Parents, relatives and acquaintances of students assigned to a specific bus route are not authorized to board school buses without previously obtaining explicit authorization from the District. Notices will be placed on each of the District's school buses, including contracted buses, and unauthorized individuals entering onto the buses may be prosecuted for criminal trespass pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:18-3.

Thank you for working with us in establishing and maintaining a safe environment for the transportation of the District's students.

HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On occasion in the morning one or both UCVTS Buses may run late in getting to the HHS bus stop.

When this occurs, every effort will be made to keep you updated through notification by a staff member who is on site at Hillside High School.

If you do not see an HHS staff member providing an update, please call 908-352-7664 ext. 8400 so that an update can be provided to you.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matthew Leonardis", written in dark ink.

Matthew Leonardis