

FROM:Peter Dubinsky, SuperintendentDATE:September 15, 2023SUBJECT:School Bus Transportation

**For Information** 

## School Bus Transportation

## New Policies & Protocols

In April, 2023, the Board of Education adopted new policies that authorized the District to create school catchments, provide excellent school transportation services, and establish fair processes to manage school bus ridership. Copies of these policies and protocols are found here:

- Policy 300 Student Registration & Catchments
- Protocol 300.2 School Catchments
- Policy 680 Student Transportation
- Protocol 680.1 Student Transportation
- Protocol 680.2 Bus Routes
- <u>Protocol 680.3 Transportation Assistance</u>

## 2023-2024 School Bus Registration Process

The District launched a new online bus registration form for 2023-2024, which can be found here: <u>SD10</u> <u>School Bus Registration</u>. Parents, caregivers, and students have been able to register for a seat on a bus route using the new form. Registration has been open since May. The information collected on the forms is used directly by the School Board Office and transportation department to determine bus routes and ridership. The previous process involved paper forms being submitted to schools in September, which would then be send to the School Board Office for collation and analysis. This proactive approach is common practice in other districts and is intended to increase efficiencies and allow more accurate monitoring of ridership.

As of September 15, 2023, there have been 248 registrations received through this new process as compared to 289 paper registrations received by late November last year. As we move forward, we will continue to modify and improve our processes and ensure that any changes are clearly communicated to families. We are confident that this process will allow for improved transportation service to the students of SD10.

There has been a continued increase in demand for School Bus Transportation on the Fauquier and Burton routes and we have experienced recruitment challenges to fill a bus driver position on this run as well as replacement drivers. To this end, the District is examining creative means to address this situation that will alleviate the capacity and recruitment challenges that currently exist.