Dear Frenchtown Parents and Community Members:

The Frenchtown School District is calling attention to the need of bus drivers. Not wanting to cause alarm, but the situation is getting to the point where we need to look at options that will cause disruption to the normal operation of transporting students to and from school as well as activities.

Normally we have fifteen routes; currently we can cover eight of those routes. Activity trips are a major concern. The lack of drivers will cause business to be conducted differently.

The transporting of students is crucial to the success of students; however, it also allows the working family flexibility knowing there is safe and reliable transportation of their child to school. What would life look like without the ability to transport students? What about extracurricular activities and child participation in those activities that serve to enhance the school experience and extend learning beyond the classroom?

Can you or do you know of others that can help be the solution our students need?

Again, not to cause alarm; however, we have time if we start the process of hiring, training and testing now! If we wait until August, then our choices will be limited.

So, what does it take to become a bus driver and what are the perks?

- Have a commercial Driver's License (CDL) Great! If not, no problem, we will provide the necessary training to get one
- \$14.00 to \$15.50/hour DOE
- Guaranteed four hours a day if both morning and afternoon shifts are driven
- \$1500 bonus upon the completion of one year of driving
- Paid training!
- Physical and licensure costs will be reimbursed
- Work a schedule that is compatible with your child(ren)'s school schedule.
- Willing to offer just morning shifts or just afternoon shifts
 - Get children off to school and help drive in the afternoon!
 - Drive a morning shift and have time to work the rest of the morning and afternoon at another location!
 - Look for other work opportunities at school as a playground aide or food service worker!
- Substitutes needed, desired...crucial!

We are setting up a Bronc Bus Driver Roundup in the west parking lot of the North Campus on Saturday, July 17th from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm! Let's get an interested parent, grandparent, aunt/uncle to come down and sit behind the wheel of a bus, make a few maneuvers in the parking lot, and see just how awesome it would be to drive a big rig!

Please email <u>Stacie Mether</u>at <u>staciemether@ftbroncs.org</u> and we will get you started! The sooner the better!

Thanks for supporting our community, school district, and most of all, for your support of our kids!

Les Meyer; Frenchtown School District