## GLOVERSVILLE ENLARGED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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September 19, 2022

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you are aware, school districts across the state and the entire country are facing severe bus driver shortages. Our school district, like many districts in our region, has not been immune to this crisis. The purpose of this communication is to let you know, as a last resort, once all contingencies have been exhausted, that it may be necessary to temporarily cancel a bus route due to staffing shortages. Regional Transportation is currently operating with just enough bus drivers and monitors to complete the district's daily routes. Out of necessity, many routes have already been combined. As a result, we want families to be prepared for the eventuality in which we are left with no other option but to cancel a bus route or two for a day.

In the event the district does cancel a route, scholars may be dropped off and picked up from school by their families at their regular arrival/dismissal time. We encourage families to consider making contingency arrangements with extended family and neighbors to transport their children to school should their child's bus route be canceled. If parents/guardians are unable to make these arrangements for the morning, the district will make every attempt to secure a later bus run for the canceled route. In this circumstance, the canceled middle school/high school bus run will run on a one-hour delay, while elementary schools will run on a two-hour delay. This would be necessary because drivers must finish their regular bus routes and then continue to pick up the scholars from any canceled route(s). Parents and guardians of children on impacted bus routes may be required to pick up their children from school in the afternoon, even if morning transportation via the late bus was able to be provided.

Please know, we will make every effort to spread bus cancellations among all routes, meaning no single bus route will be impacted or canceled for an extended period of time. If bus routes need to be canceled, parents/guardians will be notified via ParentSquare (e-mail, text, phone call). The notice will also be posted on the district's website and Facebook page. No different from a snow day, the Transportation Department may not know that a route needs to be canceled until very early in the morning. We ask that parents check that the contact information we have on file is accurate and that you have access to messages from ParentSquare. Parents/guardians will also be notified by 7:00 a.m. if a late arrival can be made available for a canceled route.

Our faculty and staff have also been informed of the potential for bus route cancellations, resulting in some scholars arriving late to school on those days. High school and middle school scholars should check in with the teachers for the classes they missed to get any assignments and class information. Elementary school children's classroom teachers will get them caught up when they arrive. Questions regarding missed instruction should be directed to your child's principal.

We are hopeful that this is a temporary situation and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our families. We will do our best to minimize the impact this disruption could have on any one bus route at a time. Furthermore, if you or someone you know is interested in becoming a school bus driver or school bus attendant, we encourage them to apply on RecruitFront. We have openings for both full-time positions with benefits, as well as substitute positions, both with paid training.

Yours in Education,

David Halloran

Superintendent of Schools

"Building a Bright Future for Our Community"