

Dr. Glen Fenter, Superintendent
Dr. Robin Catt, Asst. Supt. for
Compliance
W.T. Duncan, Asst. Supt. for
Facilities
Hugh Inman, Asst. Supt. for
Curriculum and Instruction
Susan Marshall, Comptroller

Marion School District

200 Manor Street
Marion, AR 72364-1936
870.739.5100
870.739.5156 FAX

Board of Directors:
A. Jan Thomas, Jr., President
Steve A. Sutton, Vice-President
Rev. Jeffrey Richardson, Secretary
Darrylee Arms
Brian Proffitt
Daryel Jackson
Gary Wehrum

To: Parents of Students Attending the Marion School District

From: Kenny Phillips, Transportation Coordinator

Re: School Bus Service

The Marion School District Transportation Department takes great pride in getting your children to and from school safely each day of the school year. In order to be able to provide the best transportation service possible, we need a little help from you!

Attached is a transportation data form. Please complete a form for every child in your household that will be riding a school bus. Information collected on these forms is used by the department in determining bus routes and assignments.

Your child will be assigned a specific bus stop using the information on the completed data form. The Marion School District allows only one designated stop in the A.M. and one designated stop in the P.M. Your child will not be permitted to use another stop, except in the case of a documented emergency.

In order to ensure smooth, safe transportation, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact the Transportation Office at 739-5190.

Thanks,



Kenny Phillips
Transportation Coordinator

Marion School District



Transportation Data Request

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Students are expected to be at their assigned bus stop 5 minutes early ready to board the bus.

Student Name _____

Birth Date _____

School _____

Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Phone _____

Will Child Require Bus Transportation in 2017 – 2018 School Year?

Yes _____ No _____

If Yes, Check all that will apply

Morning _____ Afternoon _____

If Morning, please advise physical address that student will be picked up at:

If Afternoon, please advise physical address that student will be dropped off at:

If you have any questions about this questionnaire, contact the TRANSPORTATION DEPT at 739-5190

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Due to traffic, construction, and trains, precise bus stop times are not possible. Buses should arrive at bus stops at a given time each day give or take 5 minutes either way. Early in the school year stop bus times can vary until the route is established by knowing which students will ride the bus.

Students are to be at the bus stop when the bus arrives. Buses will not stop at bus stops if the student is not present. The only exception would be in situations of inclement weather. Inclement weather is defined as temperatures at freezing (32 degrees or below) or rain (not sprinkles). In situations of inclement weather, the bus will stop at all bus stops and look to see if any student is approaching the bus. If students are not approaching the bus, the bus will continue to the next bus stop.

Students who habitually delay the bus by not being at the bus stop when the bus arrives or shows up late at the bus stop and the bus must wait on the student after loading other students will be reported to their school. This behavior delays the bus and causes the bus to be late at other stops and getting to school.

Parents of Avondale students will need to have someone responsible to receive them at their bus stop in the afternoons. If no one is present at the stop when the bus arrives, the student will remain on the bus and return to the bus shop where the parents may pick them up. If the student returns to the bus shop due to no one present to receive them, documentation will be sent to the school to indicate the failure of the parent of being present. If failure to be present by a responsible person becomes habitual, the student can receive a bus suspension and be denied bus riding privileges until the issue is resolved.

Students are not permitted to have multiple bus stops. A student is allowed one bus stop in the morning and one bus stop in the afternoon. Only in a true emergency will a student be allowed to use an additional bus stop. In the case of a true emergency a bus pass must be issued by the student's school to ride another bus. Notes handed to bus drivers are not acceptable. Parents must provide transportation for students going home with someone else or spending the night with someone else. This policy is in place to try to control loads on buses as to not create an overload.

Parents having a problem with a bus driver should not confront the driver at the bus stop. Proper procedure to report a problem with a driver would be for the parent to contact the school or the bus shop. It is unlawful for any person or persons to threaten, curse, or use abusive language to a school bus driver in the presence of students in the state of Arkansas.

Unauthorized Entry of a School Bus is Unlawful. Act 247 of 2005

Misbehavior or unsafe acts will be reported by the school bus driver to your child's school. Consequences for these acts are listed in your child's school handbook. Progressive steps to correct misbehavior and unsafe acts will be administered up to **suspension and eventually denied their riding privilege from the bus.** Acts considered of a severe nature can result in immediate suspension or loss of their riding privilege from the bus. When a student is suspended from a bus, they are suspended from all district buses. When a student rides a bus during a suspension, he/she shall receive the next level of punishment.

Students are not permitted to use cell phones on Marion School District buses. Cell phones will be confiscated from the student by the driver and turned in to the office. Students refusing to give their cell phones to the driver will be referred to the office for not only having a cell phone on the bus but also for insubordination.

It is an act of insubordination for a student to fail to identify himself/herself correctly to the bus driver upon request.

RIDING A SCHOOL BUS IS A PRIVILEGE

The following is posted on all Marion School District Buses:

DON'T LOSE YOUR RIDING PRIVILEGES

FOLLOW THESE RULES

1. Observe same conduct as in the classroom.
2. Be courteous, use no profane language.
3. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
4. Keep the bus clean.
5. Cooperate with the driver.
6. Do not smoke.
7. Do not be destructive.
8. Stay in you seat.
9. Keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus.
10. Bus driver is authorized to assign seats.

Doyle Jones, Transportation Coordinator
Marion School District 739-5190