LEAD Public Schools Transportation Policy

Last Updated: April 2025

LEAD Public Schools provides busing for all students to and from school within the City of Nashville. This is a service we provide to assist our families and make LEAD a great choice for students. However, busing is considered a privilege and if policies and behaviors are not adhered to, bus privileges can be revoked. Families should be aware that all of the rules contained in this policy are applicable to their conduct and actions while riding LEAD-provided transportation.

Bus Routes and Stops:

We will make our best effort to maintain bus stops that are within a reasonable distance from our family's home location and create stops that are convenient for multiple families. Our goal is to maximize bus route efficiency while limiting the amount of time students spend in transition to and from school. Requests for the creation of new bus stops/routes will be considered based on the amount of additional time added to the route, impact on distance for other families, traffic patterns, etc.

Timeliness:

The bus schedule provided will give each stop a 20 minute window (10 minutes before the scheduled pickup time and 10 minutes after) of time during which you can expect the bus to arrive. This time frame accounts for that day's particular traffic or important conversations that might occur between bus drivers and families. Please be on time to your stop. **Buses CANNOT wait for you if you are not at the stop.**

Inclement weather can delay a bus' normal drop off and pick time by 10-15 minutes. If a bus is running late due to weather or any other circumstance, you are always welcome to bring your student to school if you choose not to wait. Late buses will always make every stop.

Dismissal Changes:

Requests for a student to ride a different bus home must be made two hours prior to dismissal. These requests must be approved by school administration and should only be requested due to an extenuating circumstance. If there is the need for a permanent change in bus transportation, the family must make that request in writing and present it to the school's operations manager for final approval. Requests for a student who normally rides the bus home to be dismissed as a car rider must be made before two hours prior to dismissal.

Updated Information:
Grayline and our staff rely heavily on information that you provide. Please make sure the school has the most up-to-date contact information for you.

Also, please reach out to your school's main office to notify us if you need to make permanent changes to a student's dismissal plan or make updates to the family release information.

Transportation Communication:
We try our hardest to communicate all bus delays to families, but unfortunately we cannot always communicate depending on the circumstances. If we know that a bus left the depot or the school late, we will send a text informing families. If there is a major delay resulting from any trouble on the bus, we will send a text informing families, however minor delays as a result of traffic and weather conditions cannot always be communicated.

In the afternoon, you can contact the school directly if you have a concern or an issue. If you would like to file a complaint about a bus or have a question about bus location, you may contact your principal.

Bus Management and Consequences

Student Behavior Expectations:
Our buses are staffed with a bus driver and at times a bus monitor. A driver's primary objective is to transport your child to and from school safely. Bus transportation is a privilege and school leadership reserves the right to remove a student from the bus for the violation of school rules and/or creating an unsafe environment. All school rules apply when students are riding on a bus and the following are examples of unacceptable behaviors while riding the bus, in addition to our student code of conduct.

Examples of Unacceptable Behavior
• Throwing objects anywhere near driver • Horseplay • Getting out of seat before the stop • Profanity • Tossing objects • Playing of music while not wearing headphones • Turning around in seat

- Sticking any body part outside of a bus window
- Not following directions the first time
- Standing up while the bus is in motion

This list above is not exhaustive and the school may decide another consequence is appropriate to the infraction after investigating what occurred.

Consequences for Behaviors:

- First Incident:
  - Verbal warning from bus driver.
- Second Incident:
  - Bus referral and parent notification.
- Third Incident:
  - One-day suspension from the bus; Parent/guardian conference with principal or assistant principal of students when student is brought to school
- Fourth Incident:
  - Three-day bus suspension; Conference with student, parent/guardian and principal or assistant principal of students when student is brought to school
- Fifth Incident:
  - Ten-day bus suspension; Conference with student, parent/guardian and principal or assistant principal of students when student is brought to school
- Sixth Incident:
  - Loss of bus privileges for the rest of the year.

If a student is suspended off the bus, it is the parent's responsibility to get their child to school. LEAD Public Schools must continue to follow our attendance policy and Tennessee law if a child misses school. An absence due to bus suspension will be an unexcused absence.

Family Expectations:

Because it is our responsibility to ensure that students and staff get home every day in a safe manner, we will strictly adhere to all of the above policies and procedures. Failure for families to adhere to these policies will also result in consequences including suspension of bus privileges.

Rules and Procedures

The LEAD Public Schools transportation policy is posted on our website and each of our schools share their campus rules and policies annually in their Student and

Family Handbook.

Compliant Process
In the event that you have questions or concerns regarding bus transportation, please contact the director of operations at your child's school.

Bus Fare
LEAD Academy does not provide bus fare to students riding the MTA.