

SUBJECT: Important Transportation Information

August 19, 2025

Dear Biddeford School District Families,

Welcome back to another exciting school year! As we prepare for the return of our students, we want to make you aware of ongoing construction throughout Biddeford that may impact your daily transportation routine. Construction is taking place on many streets throughout Biddeford, causing significant traffic delays and disruptions. Having observed these conditions daily, we are concerned about the additional traffic challenges that will arise when school begins and want to help families plan accordingly.

Transportation Recommendations

To ensure the safety of our students and minimize delays, please consider the following:

For Drop-Off:

- **Arrive early** if you're dropping off your child to avoid peak traffic congestion
- Allow extra travel time in your morning routine

For Pick-Up:

- **Plan to arrive after the buses** if you're picking up your child
- This allows buses to move more efficiently and reduces overall congestion

Traffic Flow Considerations:

- Reducing car traffic to our schools will help buses navigate more quickly through construction zones
- Please expect that buses may experience delays due to increased traffic from ongoing construction projects

Safety Concerns for Pedestrians and Cyclists

We have particular concerns about the safety of students who walk, bike, or ride e-bikes through the construction areas. The combination of construction activity and increased traffic creates additional hazards for these students.

Important: Please carefully evaluate whether walking, biking, or e-biking is the safest option for your child this fall. Consider alternative transportation methods if possible while construction continues.

Transportation Changes - URGENT ACTION REQUIRED

If you need to make any changes to your child's transportation arrangements (drop-off location, pick-up location, or bus requests) and have not yet contacted our transportation department, please do so immediately. Over the next several days, we typically receive many last-minute transportation requests that significantly alter our bus routes and timing. **For any requests made after Friday, August 22nd, we cannot guarantee that changes will be processed in time for the first day of school.**

Please understand that each transportation change impacts the schedule and timing for all families on that route. To help everyone plan effectively and minimize disruptions, we need to finalize routes and schedules as soon as possible. Additionally, our school offices coordinate dismissal procedures around established bus routes, making last-minute changes particularly problematic for overall school operations.

Please send any transportation changes to: transportation@biddefordschools.me

We are actively working on solutions to address these transportation challenges and will continue to monitor the situation closely. Families can utilize the [BusRight App](#) or online access to monitor real-time pick up and drop off times, updates, and delays. As we receive updates about the construction timeline or develop additional safety measures, we will communicate this information promptly to all families. **It is essential that all families verify their information in Bus Right before the first day of school.**

Walking Distances and Bus Capacity

We always do our best to work with families regarding transportation needs. However, some bus runs at the high school level are reaching full capacity, and we may need to reinforce walking distance requirements if buses become overcrowded. For reference, please review our official walking distance guidelines: [Transportation Policy](#).

If your child falls within the established walking distance and their assigned bus route is at capacity, we may need to require walking to school. We will work with affected families individually and provide as much advance notice as possible in these situations.

High School Parking and Center of Technology Transportation

Significant Parking Changes - EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- **For Students Traveling to/from the Center of Technology:** Students should plan for additional travel time due to construction delays throughout the city.
- All student parking must be in the designated lot **across from the high school**
- **ALL parking on the school side of Maplewood Avenue is PROHIBITED**
- No parking is permitted in fire lanes or pick-up/drop-off areas
- Allow extra time for walking from the parking area

Enforcement:

- Vehicles parked in prohibited areas will be **towed or ticketed**
- These restrictions are necessary for school safety and emergency access
- Violations create serious safety hazards for students and staff

Looking Ahead

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we navigate these temporary but significant transportation challenges together. Your cooperation in adjusting pickup and drop-off times, and high school students' compliance with parking restrictions, will help ensure the safety of all our students and the efficiency of our transportation system.

Thank you for your partnership in keeping our school community safe. We look forward to a wonderful school year ahead!

Sincerely,

Jeremy Ray, Superintendent of Schools