## Maine School Administrative District No. 11

150 Highland Avenue Gardiner, ME 04345

Jeff Ellis Director of Transportation Phone: 207-582-6663 Transportation\_office@msad11.org www.msad11.org Bud Sergent and Patricia Peckham Administrative Assistants

October 11, 2024

Dear Families,

As you may know, MSAD #11 has been experiencing an ongoing shortage of bus drivers. We are currently understaffed by four drivers, and are relying heavily on our limited number of substitutes to be sure our daily busing needs are met. This arrangement is not sustainable, and puts us at risk of having to cancel one or more bus runs on short notice. This would mean not being able to provide transportation to or from school on any given day.

Safe and consistent transportation for our students is our top priority. That is why, after much careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision to combine some of our bus routes.

At this time, these changes will affect our West Gardiner elementary, middle school, and high school routes. Families who are impacted will be contacted with their student's new bus number, as well as updated pick up & drop off times. We plan to implement these changes to our morning and afternoon routes beginning Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we make this transition.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ellis

Jeff Ellis Director of Transportation