

Bus Stop Survey

Queen Anne's County Public Schools - Board of Education
202 Chesterfield Avenue, Centreville, Maryland 21617
Telephone: 410-758-2403 - Fax: 410-758-8200

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: Street: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Day-Time Phone#: _____ email address: _____

School Name: _____ Grade(s): _____

Student(s)' Name(s): _____ Age(s): _____

Current Stop Location: _____ Bus(s) #: _____

Requested Stop Location: _____ Bus(s) #: _____

School Year/Date Submitted: _____ Confirmation #: _____

The goal of this questionnaire is to provide you, as parents, an opportunity to express your concerns as they relate to the safety of your children and to inform you of Board of Education policies and procedures. Thank you for your input and time.

Establishing School Bus Stops - School bus stops will be established considering safety and economic reasons and will be at least two (2) city blocks apart. This is equal to approximately 2/10 of a mile.

Some stops may be closer than 2/10 mile apart because of safety reasons.

Stops may be established on both sides of a roadway when sight distance and traffic conditions warrant such coverage.

Buses shall be assigned to operate on State, County, or Town paved and maintained roads only.

If it is necessary for the bus to back, a safe adequate turning place must be available. Buses shall not back in heavily populated areas. Bus stops shall be located at points where vision is unobstructed in both direction for at least 300 feet and where room is available for children to stand off the traveled portion of the road while waiting.

To provide minimum obstruction to traffic flow and minimum time to complete the run, where possible, stops shall be designated at least one-quarter mile apart.

One a.m. and one p.m. stop location shall be allowed for each transported student. Exceptions will be made only in case of an emergency or when extenuating circumstances exist. This shall be approved by the Principal. Pupils shall be expected to walk up to the same distance to the school vehicle stop as pupils residing in non-transported areas are required to walk to their respective schools. When a child resides one-half mile or more from an existing stop, a closer stop shall be established if it can be done without backing the bus to turn around.

Suitable Pathways and Walking Routes - Road shoulder, pathway, right-of-way, sidewalk or other surface which pupils can walk without being required to step on the portion of the road used by vehicles except:

- a. Residential Street in a community with little or no transient traffic.
- b. Road/streets with speed limits less than 40 miles per hour.

An exceptional condition may exist in the following cases:

- a. When students are required to walk more than ¼ mile along a road having a posted speed limit of 45 miles per hour or more.
- b. When students are required to walk across a roadway involving a safety hazard.
- c. When students are required to walk across an active high-speed, at-grade railroad crossing, bridge, or overpass, or through a tunnel, having inadequate walkways.

Distance Criteria for Walking - Distance criteria will be adhered to concerning walking to a bus stop or when determining eligibility for school bus service provided that traffic and/or walking conditions meet an acceptable level of safety and/or conditions permit safe bus operations.

Some students may be required to walk to a bus stop or to school in excess of the stated distance. Examples include:

- a. Limited bus access (bus stop placement)
- b. Measuring criteria (to front door of the school)

Other students may be provided with bus service although they reside in the "walking" area. Examples include:

- a. Approved medical/physical exemptions
- b. Temporary construction activity

The Transportation Department staff will conduct an on-site visit to investigate each written request in the order in which it is received. When considering the need to extend a bus route, change the location or add a stop, the staff will consider the following: acceptable levels of safety; program and routing efficiency; economy of operations and equity of service.

In order to have your request reviewed, the first two pages of this questionnaire must be filled out and returned to The Transportation Services Department of Queen Anne's County Public Schools at the address/fax number above.

Thank you for your continued support and supervision of your children in the overall goal of safety.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What are the walking/standing conditions, such as road shoulder, grass or sidewalks that the student utilizes?

2. What is the posted speed along the road(s) that the student walks? _____ mph
3. What is the posted speed along the road that is traveled by the bus? _____ mph
4. What is the number and type of vehicles that pass the stop five (5) minutes before and fiver (5) minutes after the stop?
_____ a.m. _____ p.m.

5. What traffic control devices exist; such as stop signs, warning signs, traffic lights, crosswalks, etc.?

6. What is the number of feet your child walks to the nearest bus stop? _____ feet
7. What would be the distance between the designated stop and the stop you are requesting? _____ feet
8. Is the road a state or county road? If state road, please give route number. _____
9. What are the nearest intersecting road to your residence? _____
10. How far can traffic see a stopped school bus in each direction from the present bus stop?
_____ feet _____ feet
11. How far can traffic see a stopped school bus in each direction of the stop you are requesting?
_____ feet _____ feet
12. What is the alignment of the road at your designated stop, such as curves, hills, flat?

13. What is the alignment of the road at your requested stop, such as curves, hills, flat, etc.?

14. Please list the major concerns with your children(s) current bus stop. Please be specific. You may attach drawings or photos.

15. Please suggest any changes that you feel would improve the present stop.

Signature of Parent or Guardian
Transportation Bus Stop Survey -7/9/2015

Date

Queen Anne's County Board of Education
Transportation Services Department
PARENTS' ROLE IN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
(Do not Return this Page)

1. Parents are urged to assist their children in developing a respect for and a sense of safety concerning all of the related operations of the school bus. All of the "Student Responsibilities" should be reviewed with the students as to meaning and rationale.
2. Parents are urged to play a major role in their responsibility when the child leaves home to walk to the bus stop and the child's behavior at the bus stop.
3. Parents should see to it that their child arrives at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the regularly scheduled arrival time. Each student and parent should know their bus number. Bus drives will not wait for tardy students since any wait will adversely affect the established time schedules for many other students.
4. Parents of younger students should select a safe and expedient walking route to and from the bus stop. Deviation from the route should be avoided. After leaving the bus students should walk directly home using a safe and direct route. Students should not talk to strangers at the bus stop or along the way to and from the bus stop.
5. Students should be instructed to respect private property when walking to and from the bus stop. Crossing through private property or "horseplay" should also be avoided. Students' safety at the bus stop is of paramount importance.
6. Parents of younger students are encouraged to accompany their child to and from the bus stop until the student is comfortable with the route and the stop location. This is an excellent opportunity to emphasize should traffic safety practices. Older brothers, sisters, neighbors, etc., can be of assistance in this effort.
7. Parents are encouraged to monitor radio and television stations carefully during inclement weather. Normally school closing announcements are made beginning at or before 5:30 a.m. and at various times thereafter.
8. Parents are reminded that students must ride their assigned (numbered) bus. Any deviation must be approved in advance by the principal or designee. Vacations, temporary work assignment changes, social events, riding to a friend's home, or other foreseen events will not be approved for a change in bus assignment. Under short-term emergency situations the Principal may approve a different bus assignment.
9. Pupils must board their bus and be discharged from their bus at the assigned stop. Permission to use a different bus stop may be granted on a temporary basis if approved by the School Principal and provided that the request does not involve a bus assignment/route change. Bus drivers must be notified by the Principal.
10. PK, K, first and second grade students must have someone accompany them to and from the bus stop. Parents are urged to assist their children in developing a respect for and a sense of safety concerning all of the related operations of the school bus.
11. One AM and one PM stop location shall be allowed for each transported child. Exceptions will be made only in case of an emergency or when extenuating circumstances exist. This shall be approved by the school principal.