

## Lynden Christian School Transportation Department

The primary goal of Lynden Christian School's Transportation Department is to safely transport students between school and home. Guidelines, procedures and goals for bus routes, bus stops, equipment and personnel follow:

### GUIDELINES:

- Transportation will be planned to accomplish a balance that maximizes safety and economy within State and Federal governing rules and regulations.
- Designated routes will be established and followed by each bus to ensure timely and dependable transportation for LC families.
- Routes will service students within a 7 mile radius that are also in proximity to other ridership. Stops servicing LC students outside this radius will be designated and/or cluster stops.
- Maximum ride time for students will be 60 minutes or less (implemented to the greatest extent possible).
- Bus stops will be located to limit walking distance to less than one block.
- Equipment will be maintained and operated in a manner to promote safest service possible.
- Drivers and equipment will meet legal standards set forth by the State of Washington.
- Ridership rules and Standards are communicated to each family by Drivers and through the website. (See "BUSING RESPONSIBILITY" form.)
- The Transportation department will promote efficient use of alternate transportation venues, including:
  - Cooperative efforts between extra-curricular groups to carpool or ride share
  - Public transportation offerings – through WTA and Flex routes

### GENERAL TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES for Bus Route and Stop Safety:

Washington State Transportation standards will be met. In addition to driving regulations as set forth by Washington State; special operating requirements recognized by LCS buses include:

- Backing a school bus is prohibited except for a few exceptions. Please do not ask your bus driver to make an exception for you.
- Pick up and drop off locations must be designated and students are not allowed to disembark at a location other than their designated stop without written parental consent.
- If passengers must cross the road to reach the bus, the driver will make every reasonable effort to insure safe crossing. Crossing must always be IN FRONT of the school bus and never behind.

- Passengers will remain quiet at Railroad crossings; allowing the Driver to listen for approaching trains.
- Stops for loading/unloading within populated residential areas will be made at established stops at a two block minimum distance from one another.
- Stops on multi lane road sections are prohibited.
- Buses will not enter cul-de-sacs, Dead end streets, Private roads or personal property. Exceptions based on turn around needs and safety may be made. Written approval from all residents of private property must be provided prior to a bus accessing these areas.
- Roads will be 24' wide minimum and allow for change of direction without backing. Roads will be maintained to City or County standard, year round; including provision for snow or ice removal and obstructions impeding safe travel of school buses.
- Bus Ridership Changes: Any changes in bus assignment must be approved by the Driver. Some routes may not accommodate additional ridership.
- Drivers are not permitted to have cell phone in use while operating their vehicle.
- Riders that have "call when riding" arrangements with drivers must complete these arrangements prior to 6:30am on the day a stop is required.