

## SCHOOL BUS PASSENGERS

The policies of the State Department of Education are very clear to unauthorized passengers (Sec. 682b). Pre-school children and unauthorized passengers, according to law, may not ride a school bus. Pupils other than those who are designated to get on and off at their assigned bus stop are not authorized to ride the bus without special permission from the Transportation Director and/or designee.

## BUS ROUTES AND STOPS

Safety is the most important factor in transporting Yale Public School Students. The following information is offered to help make pupil transportation safe and successful. Bus stops and bus routes are established on the basis of safety, efficiency, and the age of the students and in accordance with the laws of PA187 of the State of Michigan. Your child may be required to walk to a bus stop. Students are required to cross in front of the bus at all times. Please have your child to the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus is due to arrive. Students must remain seated during the bus route. One stop pick-up/take home policy. Your child's bus stops may be two different locations or addresses, however these locations must be consistent every day Monday through Friday. We will only transport to daycare providers within the school of attendance boundaries. A bus stop request form must be completed for any change of address or (2) two location stops for your child/children. Abandon Child Policy A parent must be home and visible when the bus arrives at the drop off address of a kindergarten-3<sup>rd</sup> grade student. If no one is present, the bus driver will then be required to follow the abandon child policy. A visual aide may be used for students 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, you must request a form from the Transportation Office.

## BUS PASSES

A bus pass may be issued in an emergency situation only. We do not issue bus passes for recreational purposes. Should an emergency occur, contact the Transportation Office for approval.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### ***Isn't the school district required to transport my child?***

School Districts are **NOT** required by law to transport regular education children. Michigan Compiled Law (MCL) 380.1321 outlines the obligation of the school district if its board of education elects to provide transportation.

***Is there a law about how far may child may have to walk to the bus stop?*** No law specifies the maximum distance a student must walk to the bus stop.

***What about the safety of my child getting to and from the bus stop? There are no sidewalks and it's a busy road.*** It is the parents/guardians responsibility to see that a child gets safely to and from the bus stop safely. The school district provides transportation as a non-mandated service and establishes placement of the bus stops in accordance with the requirements of the law.

***My child spends over two hours a day just riding the bus to and from school. Is there a maximum riding time in the law?*** No there is no maximum riding time in the law for children in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

***Can my kindergarten student sit in the front of the bus?*** We try to place all kindergarten students in the front of the bus if possible. They may sit with siblings for the first few weeks of school until they are familiar with their surroundings on the school bus, then seat assignment may change.

***Can my student ride the bus to a friend's house.*** No, we do not issue bus passes for recreational purposes, a bus pass may be issued in an emergency, only with the Transportation Directors and/or designees approval. We ask that you respect our policy. Jr. High & High school students cannot ride an Elementary bus home.

***If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Transportation Office so they may be addressed in a timely manner***



**YALE  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**

---

## **TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT INFORMATION IN HELPING TO PROVIDE SAFE TRANSPORTATION**

---

The Transportation Department would like to welcome you to Yale Public Schools. We are looking forward to providing you with safe and efficient transportation services. In order to maintain high safety standards, it is important that everyone works together. The purpose of this brochure is to provide parents/guardians and their students with general information about Yale Public Schools pupil transportation system. State of Michigan Public Act 187 outlines the laws that all school districts must follow in providing pupil transportation. Yale Public School District covers 159 square miles located in St. Clair and Sanilac Counties. We provide transportation service for students that qualify within the district to and from school, also providing transportation for field trips and athletic sporting events.

## SCHOOL BUS DISCIPLINE

Students who are transported to school by bus have certain responsibilities to assure the orderly and safe transport of all passengers on the school bus. While onboard the bus, passengers are under the authority and directly responsible to the driver of the bus. Certain bus discipline procedures have been established to provide measures for corrective action in cases where a student's behavior is such that the safety of the other students and the driver are placed in jeopardy. If at any time, in the judgment of the bus driver, a student fails to follow instructions and violates any of the "Rules for Safe Transportation and Consideration of Others" the bus driver will issue a warning and if necessary, follow up with a written violation report, (bus write-up). Students receiving a violation report/bus write-up must have it signed by a parent/guardian and present it to the bus driver the following morning, or morning following suspension in order for transportation to be reinstated.

### Elementary Student (Kdg – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) Violations

- 1<sup>st</sup> Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 1 day suspension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 3 day suspension
- 4<sup>th</sup> 5 day suspension
- 5<sup>th</sup> 10 day suspension
- 6<sup>th</sup> Written behavioral contract
- Removal from all Transportation privileges for the remainder of the school year

### Jr. High and High School Students (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) violations

- 1<sup>st</sup> Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 5 day suspension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 10 day suspension
- 4<sup>th</sup> Written Behavioral contract
- Removal from all Transportation privileges for the remainder of the school year.

**Every discipline problem is a Safety Hazard on a School Bus.**

*It is also important that you and your children know the bus drivers name and route number.*

## IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

<b>Transportation Office</b>	<b>810-387-3231</b>
Jeri Fishel, Director	ext 6271
Jolene Roffe, Secretary	ext 6275
<b>Yale Schools</b>	<b>810-387-3231</b>
High School	ext. 5221
Jr High School	ext. 4221
Yale Elem. School	ext. 1221
Latchkey	ext. 1440
Avoca Elementary	ext. 2221
Latchkey	ext. 2440
Farrell-Emmett	ext. 3221
Latchkey	ext. 3440

### SEND IT – Notification System

You will be informed of SCHOOL CLOSINGS through the SEND IT messaging service that Yale Public Schools provides. You will get up to date messages regarding school closings, bus delays, and if there are any bus cancellations.

We also post this information to the following:  
**WSAQ (107 FM) / WPHM (1380 AM) / WBTI (96.9 FM)**  
**WHLS (1450 AM) / WTVG (97.7 FM) / WMIC (660 AM)**  
**TV channels 2 (FOX) / 4 (WDIV) / 7 (WXYZ)**

### BUS TRANSPORTATION REGISTRATION

All students who **qualify** for bus transportation must register each school year. Notifications will start via SEND IT on/around June 1<sup>st</sup> for online registration instructions. Reminders will be sent throughout the summer months. Bus Registration Closes for bussing on August 1<sup>st</sup> of each school year.

## EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS

(Closings due to building problem, bomb threat etc)

Should any or all of Yale Public School buildings need to be evacuated the following procedures will be followed by the Transportation Department.

- 1 . Parents will be notified through the SEND IT notification system (Text-email-phone call).
- 2 . Students will be transported in accordance to the Emergency Dismissal Form that is filled out at the beginning of the school year.
- 3 . Elem. Students will not be dropped off at an empty home. They will remain on the bus to be taken to a safe area that will be designated according to the emergency situation on that day.

### FAMILY EMERG. PLANNING

In the event of an early school dismissal, students should know what is expected of them when the parents are not home. Please develop a family emergency plan so you child knows what to do.

1. Go to the neighbors?
2. Have a key for the house?
3. Is your emergency contact information up to date?

### INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please dress your child/children appropriately for the weather. In case of a bus breakdown or accident, students may be evacuated or have to wait in a cold bus. Remember you as the parent/guardian have the ultimate responsibility to decide whether or not to send your child/children to school on the school bus; you do have the right to transport them yourself.