



R. J. Rhodes Transit, Inc.

COVID-19 Transportation plan

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Objective

i *The transportation of students in a safe manner has and always will be our top priority, the plans have been prepared with a common sense approach to safe transportation of passengers.*

This plan has been developed using CDC, DEP, DOE guidelines and as of 6/29/2020 it is current and up to date.

Updates to this plan will be made as required.

Drivers and Attendants

i *Drivers and attendants will be regulated as below:*

- Wear a face mask at all times while on the vehicle or around passengers and other employees, the mask must cover the nose and mouth.*
- When transporting students that require close attention, the employee will be required to wear gloves, face mask and a face shield.*
- Maintain cleanliness of the vehicle, in addition to the sanitation routine.*
- Dispose of any trash at the end of each day and only use a disposable plastic bag for collecting and disposing of trash.*
- Sanitize the vehicle twice daily in accordance with company regulations and CDC guidelines.*
- Perform a daily temperature self-check and complete a self-certification document.*
- Immediately report to Rhodes Transit if they are suffering from or have symptoms of COVID-19.*

Consideration of actions taken on School vehicles



- *All vehicles will be sanitized after each morning run and each pm run by the driver, using a mister spray system containing an EPA approved sanitizer.*
- *In addition vehicles will be periodically sanitized with an electrostatic sanitation delivery system containing an EPA approved sanitizer.*
- *Windows should be open (weather permitting) to provide fresh air flow through the vehicle.*

PennDOT Issues Statement on Driver Barriers

Many questions have been asked about the potential of installing driver barriers for school bus drivers prior to the reopening of school. Following a review of several suggested products, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) issued a statement this week that it will not be approving internal barriers for school buses at this time.

According to PennDOT, it is unclear whether any research has been done as to the effectiveness of these types of products against COVID-19 while not jeopardizing the safety and integrity of the school bus. For instance, the barriers reviewed by PennDOT do not meet flammability standards found in FMVSS No. 302, and PennDOT has concerns as to whether they would interfere with the design of the occupant protection system school buses are required to have per FMVSS 222.

Additionally, PennDOT stated that these products would create interior protrusions at the attachment points, which in the event of a rollover could pose severe additional safety concerns, and they do not meet the requirements found in Title 67, Chapter 171.58 relating to the interior of a school bus. PennDOT expressed additional concerns related to evacuations and whether these barriers impact the driver's ability to maintain clear visibility of bus occupants.

Therefore, at this time, PennDOT will not support changing the regulations to allow for the installation of internal school bus barriers. However, should anyone come forward with additional research on these types of products that demonstrate their effectiveness, PennDOT will review and also pass along to the Department of Health for their review.

Suspected/ confirmed cases of COVID-19

i *In the event an employee reports that they suspect they may have come into contact with COVID-19, or they have tested positive for COVID-19, the following immediate steps will be taken.*

The employee will be removed from duty and instructed to quarantine in accordance with CDC guidelines.

The employee may be requested to take a test to confirm if they are infected with COVID-19

The District will be notified immediately of the suspected COVID-19 contact, with details of any route and or students the employee may have been in contact with during the last 2 weeks.

Any vehicle or work area the employee has been in contact with will be taken out of service and will be cleaned and sanitized in accordance with CDC guidelines.

The employee will not be permitted to return to work until they have submitted a negative COVID-19 test result.

Students on the vehicles

i *Current guidelines do not mandate requirements for the appropriate social distancing protocol for vehicles.*

- *Parents should screen their child for symptoms, prior to them boarding a school vehicle.*
- *Students will be encouraged to social distance on the vehicle*
- *Students will be encouraged to wear a mask*
- *The number of students on each vehicle will be determined by the District.*
- *Students who are showing symptoms should not ride the School vehicle.*

Number of vehicles required

i *At this time it is not anticipated that more vehicles will be required to transport students to and from School.*

In the event that social distancing becomes a requirement on the vehicle it is not unreasonable to anticipate a 600% increase in vehicles to transport all students in on a daily basis.