

TRANSPORTATION FAQ's for 4K Students

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Regarding the district's school transportation policies

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Who is eligible for District provided transportation?

Elementary school students (pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade) who live one mile from school

How was that determined?

State law requires school boards to provide transportation to and from public schools to all resident students who live more than two-miles from the nearest public school they are entitled to attend. However, in 1962, the District electors voted to shorten the distance for elementary students (pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade) to one-mile. This distance can only be changed by a vote of the electors at the District's Annual Meeting in August, or at a special meeting called for that specific purpose.

My first child is starting school in the fall. We are just about one mile from the school. How can I find out for sure if my child is eligible for transportation?

The District has a database of District addresses with transportation eligibility references for each school to assist in answering this and many other questions. Please call the District for help in determining if your particular address is eligible. Remember, sometimes even small differences such as what side of the street you live on or where on the street your house is located can make a difference in eligibility so it is important to have a precise understanding.

Many issues revolving around childcare providers and transportation prompt hundreds of calls to the District each school year. Below, please find questions regarding circumstances a child may be bussed to school from a child care provider's home.

My childcare provider lives more than a mile from my son's school, but the District said they will not bus him to school. Why?

Transportation eligibility is based on the child's **home residence**, not the childcare provider's home. Your home is within the one-mile distance.

My childcare provider lives closer to my daughter's school than I do and yet the District will not pick her up from the babysitter's home. This doesn't make any sense.

Check to see if your provider's home is within the school's attendance area. It is likely that your provider's home is in the attendance area of another school. Maps outlining the attendance areas for the District's partner elementary schools are available at the District's website at [www.sdmfschools.org/Transportation/District Boundaries](http://www.sdmfschools.org/Transportation/District%20Boundaries). It is also possible that your provider's home is not on an existing bus route.

My babysitter's children and mine are both eligible for transportation under the guidelines set by the State. I only work in the morning and I am home by the time school lets out. Why can't my child be picked up in the morning from the babysitter's house but dropped off at my house after school?

Your house and your babysitter's house are not on the same route. Providing a seat on two bus routes for every child in the District in a similar situation would mean three or four additional buses each day. The District simply can't afford to do that.

Partner School 4K Busing Questions.

We now have two partner schools Shady Lane and Valley View are a combined attendance area and Ben Franklin and Riverside are a combined attendance area. Both Shady Lane and Ben Franklin will have 4K Students. Maps outlining the attendance areas for the District's partner elementary schools are available at the District's website at [www.sdmfschools.org/Transportation/District Boundaries](http://www.sdmfschools.org/Transportation/District%20Boundaries).

Daycare Providers:

Daycare providers must be located in the partner school boundary. We cannot bus if the daycare is not in the boundary. If child qualifies for bus service, they can be bused to any daycare provider within their school's attendance area.

In-School Daycare Solution:

We have 4K Wrap around care that provides programming for 4K students the other half of the day when they are attending their traditional 4K class. Parents can contact our Community Ed & Rec Dept at 262-255-8460 and sign up for this program. This program will be available at both Shady Lane and Ben Franklin.

Daycare Providers Within the Shady Lane Attendance Area:

Children's Community Center-N88 W17550 Christman Rd Menomonee Falls (it is located in Shady Lane area but in a walk zone so that is why it is non-mandated for all students).

- Families must pay Non-mandated (fee) at both Shady Lane and Ben Franklin

Wee B Kids-W186 N9505 Bancroft Rd Menomonee Falls (if bus eligible student would be bused, if walker to Shady Lane then must pay non-mandated bus fee)

Real Kids (old post office) -W173 N9170 St Francis Dr Menomonee Falls (in Shady Lane area (walk zone). Families must pay Non-mandated (fee)

KinderCare- N88 W15240 Main St Menomonee Falls (in Shady Lane area but in a walk zone) – they have their own bus shuttle

Daycare Providers Within Ben Franklin Attendance Area:

Children’s Community Center can be used for 4K students only for pick up in the AM and drop off in the PM by paying for non-mandated bus fee.

Children of America- Silver Spring Dr Frontage Rd Menomonee Falls (if bus eligible student would be bused, if walker to Ben Franklin then must pay non-mandated bus fee).

Willow Creek Daycare –W14845 Homestead Dr Menomonee Falls (if bus eligible student would be bused, if walker to Ben Franklin then must pay non-mandated bus fee).

The following chart summarized the bussing to daycare providers:

	BF/RS	SL/VV	Busing Available?
Children's Community Center	x*	x*	*NM Only
Willow Creek Daycare	x		Yes, NM walkers
Wee B Kids		x	Yes, NM walkers
All About Learning			no, daycare provides
Real Kids		x*	*NM Only

*NM- parent or daycare paid non-mandated stop

Mid-day 4K Routes:

The attendance areas are defined by the two partner school attendance areas.

4K wrap-around is available at both SL and BF.

We can offer Children’s Community Center Mid-day as a non-mandated (parent paid) option.

If a 4K student is bus eligible for a bus, can they get on the bus and go to a daycare facility instead of taking them to their home?

For (early) morning and (late) afternoon bus rides, this is ONLY possible if the daycare facility is in their home school boundary AND if the daycare facility is more than one-mile from their home school. We have 4K Wrap around care that provides programming for 4K students the other half of the day when they are attending their traditional 4K class. Parents can contact our Community Ed & Rec Dept at 262-255-8460 and sign up for this program.

**We cannot bus children from Ben Franklin and Riverside Boundary to daycares not located in their boundary. Children’s Community Center is the only daycare because they are a Non-Mandated Daycare that has paid for this stop for parent convenience (for 4K only).

For other daycares (babysitters)—if child qualified for bus service, they can be bused to any other daycare (babysitter) provider as long as it is in the school attendance area and on the same bus route. If a child does not qualify for bus service (home is in a walk zone), they must utilize the parent paid non-mandated process as long as there is space on an existing bus route and daycare is in their school’s attendance area.

A 4K student at Ben Franklin can get a bus pick up from Children’s Community Center in the AM and then drop off at Ben Franklin for 4K, then do wrap around care at Ben Franklin and at end of day can ride big bus back to Children’s Community Center. They can only use Children’s Community Center at beginning and end of day by using wrap around care. The other daycare

that can be used, if student is bus eligible, is Willow Creek (if walker they would pay for non-mandated).