

## **TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

Family Foundations Academy will provide transportation to-and-from school to all eligible students legally residing within New Castle County.

### **Who is eligible for transportation?**

- Elementary school students who live one mile or more from the FFA Elementary School.
- Middle school students who live two miles or more from the FFA Middle School.

### **Transportation Requirements**

Family Foundations Academy requires a parent/guardian or designee to meet their student at their assigned bus stop each and every day for the following groups of children:

- The student who is in Kindergarten
- The student who is in the First Grade
- The student who has special needs and requires adult assistance

Failure of a parent/guardian or designee to meet their student as identified above at their assigned bus stop will result in the following action:

- The bus company will contact the school and report that no one is at the bus stop to receive the student.
- The bus company will return the student to the school. The parent will be responsible for picking the student up at school. At this time, the parent/guardian will receive a letter reminding them of the transportation policy.
- Second offense: Parent/Guardian will receive a warning indicating additional offenses will result in termination of transportation.
- Third offense will result in terminating transportation services along with a referral to the Division of Family Services.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

- **How do we provide transportation for students residing outside of our school district location?**

Students who attend Family Foundations Academy, but do not reside in the district where the school is located will be picked up and delivered to the closest established stop on an existing bus route.

- **My student's bus stop is too far. Can we have a closer stop?**

Your signature on your **ENROLLMENT** application indicated that it was your understanding that it will be your responsibility to transport your student to school or to an **EXISTING STOP** on an **EXISTING BUS ROUTE**.

- **Why is my student's bus late?**

Weather, traffic, driver absenteeism, maintenance difficulties, and unforeseen incidents are responsible for delays in the arrival of school buses in the morning and afternoon.

- Sometimes the bus routes must be doubled out or run as a second load to or from the school due to the regular driver being absent.
- Traffic in New Castle County is increasing.
- Drivers check buses before their routes and sometimes find mechanical problems that can cause delays and require driving another bus for that day. This can cause the bus to be late.
- Please know that we are doing everything humanly possible to have all buses running on schedule every day. In the event that your student's bus does not arrive as scheduled, please allow ten to fifteen minutes before calling Advanced Student Transportation or the school.

- **Can you call when you know the bus will be late?**

It is simply a numbers problem. There could be as many as 40-50 students on each bus. That is at least 40-50 phone calls in a short time frame to parents who are quite possibly at the bus stop with their children. It is just not feasible. Please know that there is a bus on the way and that we will do everything humanly possible to transport your student to and from school in a timely manner every day.

- **Can my student get off wherever they want in the afternoon?**

Our current policy avoids confusion and the chance of students getting lost or running away. Students will not be allowed to leave the bus at any place other than their regular stop without written permission from their parents/guardians AND approval by the Chief Administrative Officer of Family Foundations Academy.