



CONTACT: Carol Smith
Community Unit School District 303
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Transportation and Safety Message

August 15, 2017

Dear District 303 Families,

On Wednesday, August 23, schools in Community Unit School District 303 will welcome over 12,900 students back for their first day of class. While it is an exciting time of the year for students, parents and staff members, it is also a time when the volume of traffic on roads in and around St. Charles increases. For that reason, we are asking for your assistance in keeping all students safe while they travel between home and school.

The District 303 transportation department takes pride in its record of safety and service. If riding the school bus is an option for your student, we encourage you to have them do so. This will assist with traffic flow around the schools, and ensure that students are dropped off in a secure location. Please only drive your student to school if it is absolutely necessary.

During the first week of school, additional student loading time is necessary to ensure that all students are safely on their buses after school. Because of the late departure times, bus routes may run 10-20 minutes late in the afternoon.

We ask that you remember the following items that will help keep our students safe during the school year:

- When you drive in the neighborhoods near schools while students are in session, please observe the posted speed limit signs - 25 mph in residential areas, and 20 mph in school zones.
- Please don't cut through neighborhoods as part of your route to or from our schools.
- Cell phone use is prohibited in school zones.
- Passing a school bus that is stopped and has its stop sign extended is a violation of the law which can result in license suspension.

The bus routes developed by our Transportation Department during the summer are designed to maximize safety, and work as efficiently as possible. During the first two weeks of school, our drivers and transportation department administrators will gather information about the efficiency and timeliness of routes. After that time, any necessary changes will be made and parents will be informed. We ask that you do not contact that transportation department during those two weeks.

Elementary and middle school bus route schedules will be available on e-link at noon on **Wednesday, August 16**. High school bus route information will be available at **noon on August 21**. We encourage parents to check schedules again prior to the beginning of school to see if times have been updated.

Parents can access e-link by visiting the District website at www.d303.org. Within the "For Parents" menu choose Bus Routes e-Link and login using your Home Access Center (HAC) credentials. If you have any questions, please contact your child's school.

We are looking forward to a great year.

Sincerely,

Carol L. Smith
Director of Communication and Community Relations
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