DENTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Transportation Department 5093 E. McKinney Denton, Texas 76208 (940) 369-0300

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Denton ISD is currently operating a School Bus GPS and Student Access Card Program for the DISD bus fleet. The program is designed to promote the safety and security of our students who use school bus transportation and can provide parents/guardians with information on the status of their student's ridership and bus location. Currently, the DISD Transportation Department is piloting a new system, which allows us to incorporate the Student Access Card within our student IDs. This system is designed to provide "real time" safety information on bus location and assist in identifying student passengers who are riding the bus. Denton ISD Transportation needs the help of our parents and students to fully implement this program. This system will enhance student safety, and security as well as assist to promote timely and efficient student transportation services.

How the Bus GPS & Student Access Card Program Works



- Bus students will be registered and provided a Student Bus Access Card with lanyard which must be worn daily.
- Students board the bus and their Student Bus Access Card is scanned.
- The system automatically records your student boarding, off-loading and the location of his/her school bus.
- Student and bus location information is automatically transmitted and received by DISD Transportation operations staff.
- Campus staff and parents may contact DISD Transportation to obtain "real-time" bussing and student information.
- Parents may also download the Parent Portal to obtain "real-time" bussing and student information.

Starting the week of October 21, 2019, Denton ISD Transportation staff will distribute Student Access Cards to all secondary bus students through their bus driver, except for the following campuses and special needs students: Calhoun, Myers, Navo, Strickland, and Fred Moore. Starting in January, these campuses will be a part of a pilot program developing a Universal ID. All elementary bus students will receive their card and a lanyard through their campus. The cards are encrypted with a random number that is interpreted by a sensor on the school bus. This number is then transmitted to our secure Denton ISD Student Access Card System, where it is translated and displayed to inform staff on the "real-time status" regarding student ridership, bus location along with information pertaining to whether a student boarded the bus and where they off-loaded during morning, mid-day and afternoon bus route operations.

Your Student's Access Card will be his or her pass to ride the bus. Therefore, parents are to ensure that their student(s) wears his or her Student Access Card with lanyard when the student rides the bus. Parents will need to purchase lost or damaged cards online only. The department will charge a \$5 fee to replace lost or damaged cards.

Thank you for your support and help in assisting us to keep our children safe and secure. Please contact the DISD Transportation Department at (940) 369-0300 or 0354 if we can be of further assistance or answer additional questions.

Sincerely,

Jim Watson Director of Transportation