

*Welcome Little Laker Parents:*

*Young 5's and Kindergarten children, watch wide eyed with anticipation of new adventures. Moms and dads watch as their little wonders depart their homes for the first time. The big yellow school bus pulls up to the stop, mom and dad wait for the door to open, not wanting to let go. Your heart is pounding and begins to break, it is harder for you to let go than it is for them to leave, how could they possibly survive without you. They turn, smile and wave, then that big yellow bus pulls away. You watch until they are out of sight. The next big chapter of their little lives have begun.*

It was 33 years ago that I felt those same feelings, and yet every year as I talk to our "Littlest Laker" parents with all their nervous anticipation, the memories of that time return to me.

**The Transportation Department** welcomes you. You are entrusting the most precious part of your life to us, and we know that.

Once your child begins riding the bus, we ask that you have your child ready and at their bus stop **5 minutes prior to the departure time**. This is essential for us to be sure they get to school on time. Once the bus arrives please make sure your child is a minimum of 10 feet away from the bus when it arrives. Should they ever drop something they should never run toward the bus or go under the bus to retrieve the item. They should advise their driver who will attempt to retrieve the item. No child should ever be walking to or from the back of the bus. This is a danger zone. The driver can not see your child around these areas of the bus. Parents should never pull up behind a bus and release their children for the same reason.

**There is one pick up and one drop off**, the two can be different but they must be consistent. This is for the safety of your child, we never want any confusion about where they should be.

When the driver is dropping off your child you or your designee must meet them at the bus. If we can see you from your door, a wave from your doorway is fine. We ask that you wait there until your child reaches the door, **unless** they have older siblings that they may walk with. If no one meets them, they will be returned to the school they attend, and the parent must pick them up at the school.

Please talk with your child about staying in their seat and talking with indoor voices. This is very important for their safety.

Fall will be here again in a blink of an eye. You may contact Transportation, Linda or Marian for bus scheduling, or access the information on Power School.

I look forward to meeting all of you.

Kindest Regards,

Linda Evans  
Transportation Director  
616-846-5507

“Little Lakers”

Welcome to Spring Lake Schools Transportation

