

Student Transportation

Joe Thornton, Executive Director of Operations

I briefly considered headlining this article “Planes, Trains and Automobiles,” but student transportation is not often fun, exciting or entertaining, but it is fundamentally necessary. District-provided transportation for students can sometimes seem a bit confusing. This article will hopefully shed some light on this topic.

In general, Pullman School District will provide transportation for any student that lives outside the one-mile walk zone for a school. Students that live within that one-mile zone are expected to walk/bike to school. There are a few exceptions to this general rule. There are certain street crossings that are not considered to be a safe crossing for students. In these cases, transportation is provided even though a student may live within a mile of the school. Some of these unsafe crossings are within the one-mile walk zone for a school. Often times, these unsafe crossings were used to establish the attendance boundaries between schools, such as SW Crestview and NW Larry. The other exception to this general rule results in the opposite of the first exception, where bus service is provided. If a family decides to have an in-district transfer implemented for their child from one elementary school to another, transportation will not be provided although the student may live more than a mile from their school.

All transportation for students in grades K-5 is provided by Pullman School District yellow school buses. This is for students that live in-town as well as students that live on an out-of-town route. Students in grades 6-12 that live out of town have transportation provided by yellow school buses. Typically, a rural bus route will transport students at all three grade levels; elementary, middle and high school. Inside city limits, for over twenty years transportation for students in grades 6-12 has been provided by Pullman Transit under a contract between the Pullman School District and Pullman Transit. This has always been a great partnership between the city and the school district. That agreement is currently undergoing review and may look differently in the future.

Sending buses to events is also a big part of Pullman School transportation. This is for all activities, including everything from an academic competition to an athletic event. In the Spring, it is not uncommon to have as many as six trip buses out at the same time taking students to events around Eastern Washington.

As always, we continue to encourage families, when possible, to have their student walk or bike to school. The health and learning benefits for students taking that walk before school is well documented. Additionally, it helps to reduce the traffic congestion around schools and to reduce the total carbon footprint of getting our students to school.

Student transportation requires the dedication of a great team of people. Nearly two dozen people are part of the transportation department in the Pullman School District. This includes supervisors, mechanics and drivers. This is a team of people dedicated to safely getting students to school and events. Sometimes, driving a bus in bad weather with a full bus load of students can be challenging. But this team always meets that challenge.

Speaking of bus drivers: we are always looking for more people to help. We do not just need people to drive every day for us—sometimes we just need substitute drivers. We will provide the training, pay you for the time spent training, and cover the cost of obtaining the CDL (special driver’s license required to drive a bus). If you are looking for a part-time job and want to be part of a great team that helps kids get to school, please contact Joe Thornton, jthornton@psd267.org.



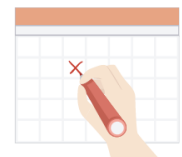
Child Find 2021-2022

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

This screening is an opportunity to identify, locate, and evaluate children who might have a disability and to address potential concerns. This is available to children (birth through 5 years of age) living within Pullman School District's boundaries.

UPCOMING SCREENING DATES:

Friday, May 4



All children **ages 5-21** who are suspected of possibly having a disability and reside within PSD boundaries, and are enrolled in public school or are being home schooled, are enrolled in a private school located in the district (even if they reside in another district), or live in a temporary situation within the district can also schedule an appointment for a Child Find Screening.

For more information or to **schedule an appointment**, please contact Pullman School District's Instructional Programs Office at (509) 332-3144.

Care Connect
Washington

Supporting people who stay home to stop COVID-19

1-800-525-0127

Washington State Department of Health

Sick with COVID-19? Need food or other help while you isolate at home?

Get Tested



Stay Home



Call for Help



Get Help



Call Care Connect Washington for help with groceries, supplies and finances while you recover safely at home.

Student Supports and Services

Evan Hecker, Kamiak Elementary Principal

The ultimate outcome of our work is to support students, families, and educators in a manner that prioritizes their health and safety, social and emotional needs, and behavioral and academic needs. All of our schools in Pullman School District use a Response to Intervention three-tiered framework for implementing a data driven approach to help us understand what we want students to learn and do, and what to do if they have not mastered essential standards, or what to do next if they have.

We have school-wide team responsibilities and teacher team responsibilities to develop Tier I supports for all students so they have access to essential grade-level standards. Our collaborative teams use common planning times, collaboration days, and learning improvement days to identify essential standards, and to review universal screening and diagnostic assessments to inform our instructional decisions. So, what do tier 1 supports look like? Well, our teachers offer students choices, and provide countless opportunities for students to share their thinking in a variety of ways. Our teachers create daily learning targets and teach students the skills necessary so they can provide evidence of student learning. Because we prioritize learning and skill development, our teachers provide daily feedback to students, and collect data to monitor student progress towards learning goals. Our teachers use positive reinforcement, proactive strategies, and research-based interventions to teach academic and social skills in a large group. Again, we praise positive behaviors to support school-wide growth in academic and social-emotional areas, and believe that all students can and will be successful with the appropriate level of supports.

Our collaborative teams also uncover who in their general education classrooms need additional time and support to learn essential behavior and academic standards. After identifying learning barriers, our collaborative teams use targeted interventions and extensions for students who need more. We monitor progress to see if our new supports and interventions are working to close achievement gaps, or to accelerate



HAVE A CHILD WHO WILL BE 5 YEARS OLD BY AUGUST 31, 2022?

2022-2023

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT
Now Open!

 (509) 332-3581

 www.pullmanschools.org/enrollment

learning. At this point in the framework, it is vital we re-teach expectations, and involve families because we know that when we create personal accommodations and individualized plans, a partnership with families supports further growth to overcome barriers for learning.

If we identify students who needs Tier III supports, we create student success plans centered on intensive remediation in universal skills. These intensive, comprehensive plans involve multi-tiered systems of support, and sometimes involve wrap-around services that include outside agencies. Our collaborative teams continue to adjust our intervention plans depending on each student's responsiveness.

The Pullman School District Board of Directors and the Pullman School District shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities programs without regard to race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation (including gender expression or identity), marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, participation in the Boy Scouts of America or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator, Assistant Superintendent, (509) 332-3144, and Section 504 Coordinator, Director of Special Services, (509) 332-3144. 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584.

Board of Directors

Jim Evermann
Director, District 3
jfe@psd267.org

Nathan Roberts
Director, District 4
nroberts@psd267.org

Amanda Tanner
Director, District 5
atanner@psd267.org

Allison Munch-Rotolo
Director, District 2
Amunch-rotolo@psd267.org

President Susan Weed
Director, District 1
Sweed@psd267.org