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TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

Real-Time Tracking with New Bus App

Thank you to everyone who has created a WheresTheBus account and started using the app to track your child's bus! We are excited to fully transition to this new tool this spring. WheresTheBus will replace the current Bus Status App, which will no longer be available effective March 6.

WheresTheBus provides parents/guardians and schools with timely arrival and location information for our fleet of contracted buses. It is free, secure and easy to use. This tool uses GPS and tablets installed on school buses to track and report the real-time location of the bus and estimated arrival times.

Please note, due to bus shortages and route substitutions, there may be occasions where tracking on your bus is not up-to-date. RVS is working with our contractors to ensure the accuracy of our WheresTheBus data.

To create your account, you will need your student's PowerSchool number, which can be found on PowerSchool or by contacting your school. More information about WheresTheBus including how to create your account, use the app and frequently asked questions is available on the [RVS website](#).

For assistance with WheresTheBus, please submit a service request ticket through the [RVS Transportation Portal](#).

Inclement Weather

School buses do not typically run in the mornings when the temperature is at or lower than -40 degrees Celsius without wind chill. When the weather is severe, or road conditions are hazardous, certain bus routes may be cancelled. However, this does not necessarily mean schools are closed. Once student transportation has begun, a school will not close until regular dismissal time.

In the event that morning transportation needs to be cancelled due to weather conditions, announcements will be made through the local radio stations, updated on the Bus Status App (or WheresTheBus Parent Portal), and communicated to RVS families through the SMS service if you have opted in (this service is currently not available for CSSD families). Afternoon service cancellations will be re-evaluated throughout the morning and then updated on the Bus Status App (or WheresTheBus Parent Portal) by noon, should a route be cancelled.

Bus contractors update delays over 10 minutes on the Bus Status App.

More information is available on our [Inclement Weather](#) page.

It is important NOT to leave your child at the bus stop in severe weather for any period of time.

Cold Weather Tips:

- Stay with your child at the bus stop until they have been picked up or have a back-up plan in place.
- Dress your child in warm, insulating layers close to their body, with wind and waterproof layers on the outside. Keep their head covered.
- Cover exposed areas such as fingers, cheeks, ears, and nose. Consider sending your child with spare gloves and a hat just in case!

Cancellation Deadline for Partial Fee Refunds

Partial fee refunds are available if you cancel bus service by completing the 'Cancellation Form' prior to January 31st.

To complete the Cancellation Form, access your SchoolEngage account, click on the 'Students' tab in the left-hand menu, and select your child's name. The 'Cancellation Form' will populate in the list of forms.

A separate 'Cancellation Form' must be completed for each student.

Upcoming School Closures

Rocky View Schools:

Family Day (No Classes): February 17

Catholic Schools:

Parent/Teacher Conferences K-9 (No Classes) (St.Gabriel ONLY will continue to attend classes): January 31

Teacher's Convention (No classes): February 13 & 14

Family Day (No Classes): February 17

**For more information
please visit our [website](#)**

*Rocky View Schools
Transportation Department*