

Dear Parents/Guardians of LPS Bus Riders,

We truly appreciate your patience during the recent rotating bus route cancellations. The good news is that the district has hired additional bus drivers, however, they are in training and not quite ready to take routes. The Transportation Department remains short-staffed by several drivers, thus, the rotating cancellations will continue until the situation is stabilized with the new hires. However, we are able to decrease the routes cancelled each week from 4 to 3, so progress is being made.

A follow-up email will be sent this afternoon to riders on three routes that will be cancelled during the week of November 29. Please watch your inbox for communication if your student rides on bus A, C or D.

Please know that we realize this is an inconvenience on families and we certainly would avoid cancelling routes if at all possible. As explained in an earlier email, school districts across the state and nation are experiencing driver shortages. Here in LPS, we have utilized many stop-gaps that include utilizing licensed staff from other departments to cover routes and keep the wheels of the department turning as we transport 7,500 students to and from school each day. We realized quickly that this model was not sustainable, thus the rotating cancellations.

We will utilize the same process as we have over the past two months -- you will receive an email approximately two weeks prior to your child's bus being cancelled, and a follow-up robocall as a reminder the week prior. All route cancellations will continue to be posted on the front of the district website for easy reference.

Important to note, all students who have specialized transportation plans that are contained in an IEP will NOT see a disruption in service. Also, at this time, all "shuttle" services and connector services will NOT be affected.

We thank you, once again, for your patience.

Sincerely,
LPS Transportation