

School Bus Expectations

Santa Cruz Montessori

Thank you for choosing to ride the Santa Cruz Montessori School Bus. These are the expectations for students and families. Additionally, please review the school bus safety packet for more information.

For elementary and junior high students, the responsibility for boarding the bus falls on the student. They should know if they are riding the bus to or from school on a particular day. The first few weeks we will check in more closely, but after we settle in you and your student should be familiar with the pickup days and times.

Primary students will be escorted by a classroom guide to the loading zone after class; be sure to communicate with your classroom guides to ensure that they know whether your student is riding the bus on a particular day. Parents will sign students in or out of class at pickup and drop-off time.

If a student misses the bus after school, they will be signed into care and can be picked up from there. If there is no adult to pick up a student from their stop, they will be brought back to school unless previous arrangements have been made. If an adult other than the parent will be picking up the student from the bus stop, please notify the office.

All emails about the bus should be sent to joeb@scms.org AND luis@scms.org. If something comes up during the day and you need to change your transportation plan, please contact the office so we can be aware and also pass that information to your student.

The driver's cell phone number is included in the bus paperwork, **please only call or text when communicating about pick up and drop off on a particular day** (for example if you are going to be late). Under no circumstances can the driver answer the phone while driving but he will try to check his messages at stops to see if there is anything to be aware of.

Please arrive 5 minutes early and be prepared to board, pickup and drop off times are there for everyone's benefit. The bus will depart the stop at the scheduled time so if you are going to be late, let the driver know as soon as possible. Times can vary slightly due to traffic, please be patient. **The bus will never depart a stop before the scheduled time.**

If the bus will be out of service, you will be given as much advance notice as possible.

All school rules are in effect during the bus ride and students are expected to behave appropriately. In order to ensure the safety of all our riders, students who are unsafe or disruptive may be prohibited from riding the bus temporarily or permanently. After the first incident, the student will be given an assigned seat. After the second incident, the student may be prohibited from riding the bus temporarily for a period of time to be determined by the bus driver based on the severity of the behavior. If the student continues to create an unsafe or unwelcoming environment on the bus, they may be prohibited from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year.