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# Blind Brook Public Schools

## Pupil Transportation Program

2010-2011

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# What is Our Highest Priority?



Providing safe and reliable school bus service for all resident students who meet the District's transportation eligibility criteria.

# What is the Eligibility Criteria?



To be eligible for school bus service Blind Brook resident children must meet this criteria:

Grades K-5 - Live further than .75 mile from school

Grades 6-12 - Live further than 1.5 miles from school

All Grades - 15-mile limit to out-of-district schools

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# Who Receives Bus Services?



- In-District Students 1057
  - Grades K-5 551
  - Grades 6-12 506
  
- Out-of-District Students 84
  - Grades K-12 to 25 Different Private/Parochial Schools*
  
- Students with Disabilities in 12
  - in Out-of-District Placements
  - All classified by CSE to 10 Different Public/Private Schools*

# Who Provides Bus Service?

## In-District Bus Service

- (10) District-Owned School Buses
  - BBMS/HS (9) Buses
  - PRSS (10) Buses

## Out-of-District Bus Service

- (1) District-Owned School Van
- Southern Westchester BOCES
- County Coach Corp.
- Wolverine Line
- TLC Transportation
- Neighboring School Districts



# Bus Schedules

## Blind Brook MS/HS

Buses arrive at school between 7:30 and 7:35

Buses depart from school between 2:50 and 2:55

*All students will be home by 3:10*

## BMP Ridge St School

Buses arrive at school between 8:15 and 8:25

Grades K-5 buses depart from school between  
3:20 and 3:25 (post K-callback)

*All students will be home by 3:55*

Note: Schedules may be delayed a bit during the first few weeks of school



# NY State Agencies that Oversee School Bus Operations



- Department of Motor Vehicles  
School Bus Driver Certifications – Article 19A
- Department of Transportation  
School Bus Maintenance & Inspection
- Department of Education  
School Bus Driver Training

# Department of Motor Vehicles



Through its Bus Driver Certification Unit the DMV oversees operator compliance with all aspects of Article 19A regulations.

Oversees driver fingerprinting for the purposes criminal background checks and certifies each school bus driver as legally qualified to drive children to and from school.

# NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law

## Article 19A



- Annual Driving Record Abstract
- Annual Driving Record Interview & Review
- Annual Defensive Driving Review
- Annual Physical Examination
- Random Drug & Alcohol Testing
- Biennial Behind-the-Wheel Road Test
- Biennial Written Test

All school bus drivers are fingerprinted and background checked as a part of their pre-employment processing.

# Department of Transportation



- Sets standards for school bus construction.
- Promulgates rules & regulations for maintenance of school buses.
- Conducts bi-annual school bus inspections.
- Conducts fleet inspections on a random basis.
- Reports the % of buses failing inspections.

# School Buses have Superior Design Features



- NYS regulations require buses to be built with safety design features that exceed FMVSS.
- School buses are painted yellow for a reason.
- Padded, high-back seats with seat belts offer superior occupant protection and reduce risk of injury (compartmentalization).
- Designed to absorb crash forces.
- Have numerous safety features - stop arms, crossing barriers, evacuation doors/hatches, seat belts.
- Fuel tanks positioned inside chassis rails.
- Diesel-powered engines to reduce risk of fire.

# Department of Education



- Oversees transportation contract compliance.
- Conducts periodic operations audits.
- Oversees school bus driver training programs.
- Coordinates school bus driver instructor training and curriculum content.
- Ensures compliance with education law.

# School Bus Driver Training



- Pre-service training for new school bus drivers.
- Basic course training (30-hours) for all new school bus drivers.
- Advanced course (15-hours) for all veteran school bus drivers.
- Bi-annual school bus driver refresher training.
- Remedial training as needed.

# Role of the Blind Brook Transportation Office



- To design bus stops, routes and assign routes.
- To make sure that all bus contractors provide safe, reliable & efficient service.
- To ascertain compliance with all rules, regulations & laws.
- To ascertain fiscal integrity of each District's transportation program.
- To monitor school bus operations through daily road supervision of buses.

# Questions About Transportation?



## Jonathan Ross

Oversees overall pupil transportation program; Article 19A certified examiner and school bus driver instructor.

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# Our Promise



Your children are in the best of hands as they are transported to and from school.

Blind Brook bus drivers are certified, well-trained and motivated to provide quality school bus services. They are the best at what they do and each is an employee of the School District.

Blind Brook school buses are safe, clean and well-maintained.

We pledge to operate our transportation program at the highest industry standards.

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# Conclusion – Q&A

The school day begins and ends on the school bus. What happens on a child's school bus can influence how successful a child's educational experience will be. Our professional school bus drivers want to make sure that it is a positive experience.

