

Transportation Update

August 4, 2021



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Metro Service

- CPS has partnered with SORTA for many years to provide Cincinnati students with a pass to use Metro public transportation
- The option to use public transportation is crucial for students who choose to attend one of CPS's high schools of choice outside of their own neighborhood
- XTRA routes reduce travel time for students and minimize the number of transfers for students trying to get to and from school.
- XTRA service routes also help with the difficulty of supervising and accounting for children arriving at school and leaving school at dispersed times
- In July, CPS learned of service changes that SORTA is proposing for the 2021-22 school year, due to a national driver shortage. Specifically, SORTA has announced the elimination of its XTRA routes
- CPS spent the last few weeks understanding impact and exploring other potential solutions
- CPS strongly objects to the plan proposed to eliminate all XTRA school routes and is urging Metro to maintain the XTRA service routes
- SORTA has announced a public meeting on Thursday August 5 from 4-6 pm; this will be a virtual meeting and the public can join using the Zoom meeting link on the [Metro web site](#)
- CPS is proceeding with plans for the opening of school on August 19. Families will receive bus cards through normal channels in anticipation of resolution, and information about navigating Metro services will be a part of all high school orientations
- Yellow bus service is not affected



Health and Safety Update

August 4, 2021



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Recommended Changes to Safety Plan

1. Temperature checks at building entrances eliminated
2. Staggered bus arrival and departure eliminated
3. Field Trips permitted
4. Visitors and volunteers permitted and must follow all safety protocols
5. Work-related travel permitted
6. Shared materials permitted
7. Distancing during meals when masks are removed is required to be 3' minimum
8. **Close contacts may continue to attend school while free of COVID symptoms**
9. **Masks still required for everyone indoors (until a higher student vaccination rate is reached).
Not required outdoors (*pending policy update*)**

All other precautions stay the same (hand hygiene, disinfecting, ventilation, isolation room, etc.)



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Mask Considerations

- **Centers for Disease Control**
 - ~~July 9, 2021 - Mask use is recommended for people who are not fully vaccinated including students, teachers, and staff.~~
 - **UPDATE July 27, 2021** - Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place.
- **American Academy of Pediatrics**
 - All students over the age of 2 and all school staff should wear masks at school unless they have a medical or developmental condition that prohibits this.
 - Reasons for this recommendation include but are not limited to: a significant proportion of the student population is not yet eligible for vaccination; masking protects those who are not vaccinated against COVID -19 and reduces transmission; and potential difficulty in monitoring or enforcing mask policies for those who are not vaccinated.
- **Ohio HB 244**
 - Signed into law on July 14, 2021.
 - A school district may not require a student or employee to be vaccinated in order to attend school or work, nor may a district require unvaccinated individuals to take precautionary measures that vaccinated individuals are not required to take.
- A universal mask requirement will require significant communication to families, students, and staff to understand the reasons



Quarantine of Close Contacts

- If a student has been identified as a close contact of a COVID positive person at school, the student's family will be notified. The student may continue to attend school while free of COVID symptoms.
- If the student develops symptoms, the student will quarantine at home.
- We will continue to monitor the health of our community.





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**Student-Centered
Decision Making**



**Health and
Safety**



**Community
Engagement
and Influence**



**Optimized
Capabilities**



Growth



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