## Fall activities transportation messaging

August 2023

## **Email Important update regarding transportation for 2023 fall activities**

This is a message for parents and guardians of students participating in fall activities.

Due to continued nationwide shortages of bus drivers, we are experiencing disruptions with after school activity transportation. Anoka-Hennepin transportation has been working diligently to ensure that bus routes to and from school and activities are covered. While the bus companies are making progress in adding drivers to address the shortage, we anticipate that there will be continued issues this fall.

Anoka-Hennepin is committed to keeping planned athletic and activity events this fall season. The main goal is for student-athletes to continue to compete despite the driver shortage and transportation issues.

When determining routes for athletics and activities, Anoka-Hennepin considers a variety of factors and locations to determine priority routes. This model requires constant change and adjustment.

In anticipation of a continued driver shortage, you may be asked to consider alternate plans for your child, such as carpooling, or driving your child to events when necessary.

Anoka-Hennepin Schools is not alone in this shortage. School districts across the country are canceling bus routes because of the severe driver shortage. We know that this causes frustration and hardships for families.

Please contact the activities office at your school with questions. This is not an issue your coach is able to remedy.

One solution other districts are trying is to have parents become licensed drivers and get paid to drive their team to events. If you are interested in this or know someone who might be interested, please contact:

First Student (Champlin & Anoka areas) 763-421-5785 or <u>apply online</u>. Kottkes Bus Service (Andover, Blaine, Coon Rapids areas) 763-755-3100 or <u>apply online</u>.

Or feel free to call our district transportation department at 763-506-1125 with other general questions.

Thank you for your patience as we work through this labor shortage.