



Avella Area School District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
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Transportation Concern

As you know, there is a bus driver shortage across the nation, and this shortage is greatly impacting school districts. Due to this shortage, Avella was unable to provide transportation for one of our runs today. While Avella Area School District has been quite fortunate to contract GG&C, providing qualified and available drivers, we remain prepared for challenges in light of the nation-wide shortage.

This message is to request that each parent/guardian think about alternatives in the unlikely event that their child's bus or van is canceled due to a lack of available drivers. The fact remains that, if multiple bus drivers are required to quarantine, our bus company will be unable to provide transportation as expected. Should a bus or van need to be canceled, Avella Area will take the following steps:

1. We will communicate immediately with the parents of the children assigned to the canceled bus or van, and we will continually update the parents on the status of the transportation.
2. We will make every effort to find alternate transportation, adjust or reroute buses, and/or adjust times when drivers pick up students. Thankfully, some routes can be combined or adjusted. However, if the shortage of drivers is significant or we are informed at the last minute, we may need to cancel routes entirely.
3. Principals will be alerted and asked to adjust attendance monitoring accordingly so students arriving to school late (or not at all) are not penalized. Principals will also assist teachers in arranging for classwork to be sent to students working from home.

Again, we request that parents/guardians consider transportation alternatives in the improbable event that a bus or van is canceled due to a lack of available drivers. Alternatives to consider include (but are not limited to): carpooling with neighbors, or asking a relative or responsible adult to assist.

If you are interested in working as a bus or van driver for the Avella Area School District, please contact our transportation contractor, GG&C at (724) 222-2320.

Sincerely,

Avella Area School District