**RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS**

The **Tulare Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees** seeks to provide as much opportunity as is economically feasible for students who reside a long distance from campus to attend school and participate in school activities. Consequently, the district operates an extensive transportation system to transport students to and from school and to many activities away from our campuses.

**Some of the school bus routes for 2018-2019 school year have been revised and are subject to change.** We will once again enforce the two mile walk radius. For more information on our bus stops, times and maps please visit our website at www.tulare.k12.ca.us or give us a call at **559-688-2021 ext. 2023**. Students will not be allowed to ride a different bus route or get off at an unauthorized stop without a prior parental/guardian permission slip approved by the school attendance office.

**Who can ride the bus?**

The Tulare Joint Union High School District provides bus service for:

* Students who live more than two miles walking distance from school.
* Students in certain special education programs.

**What about students who go to schools outside their attendance area?**

Transportation is provided only if they are enrolled in a special education program not offered at their local school. Other students who receive permission to attend a school outside their attendance area must provide their own transportation to and from school.

**What are some of the rules of conduct on buses?**

* Students must scan their identification cards to and from school in order to ride the bus.
* Students must be at the bus stop at the time designated and be ready to board with the least possible delay.
* Students should look for traffic in both directions before crossing the street and should cross at crosswalk areas where possible.
* Students must not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus.
* Students should **remain in line** at least five feet from the bus when it stops to pick up passengers and should not move toward the bus until the door is open.
* No animals, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, firearms, drugs or explosives are allowed on the bus.
* School dress code will be strictly enforced.
* Students must conduct themselves in an acceptable manner at all times. Vulgarity or other inappropriate behavior will not be permitted.
* Students shall not block the aisle or emergency exits with musical instruments, books, or other possessions.
* Students shall not extend arms or heads out of the bus windows at any time
* Students shall not spit, throw, or drop anything out of the bus at any time.
* Seat belt use is mandatory when buses are equipped.

**What can I do when the bus does not show up on time?**

If you are reasonably sure that the delay is not due to weather conditions, please allow at least 15 minutes before calling the District Transportation Department Office. A bus may be delayed due to traffic conditions or mechanical problems. If, at the end of 15 minutes, your bus still has not arrived, you may wish to call the transportation office at **559-688-2021 extension 2023** **or** **2009**. Please do not call this number for foggy day information. **Transportation office reserves the right to change bus stop times or routes without notice when necessary to ensure student safety.**

**Who can ride a late bus?**

Buses will depart from Tulare Western at approximately 5:50 pm, Mission Oak at approximately 5:55 pm, and Tulare Union at approximately 6:05 pm. These buses are for athletes who remain after school to practice. Anyone else desiring to ride a late bus must have written permission from a counselor or assistant principal. Identification is required to board the late bus.

 **Any other questions about buses?** Call the **Transportation Department** at **559-688-2021 extension 2023 or 2009.**