

Bus Route Plan

FPS Delayed Bus Route Plan

In the rare event that Valley Bus does not have enough staff to cover all the school bus routes for Fargo Public Schools, Valley Bus would implement a “delayed bus route plan” rather than canceling routes. This plan could be used in either a morning route or an afternoon route.

The “delayed bus route plan” will have the drivers cover for the missing driver after they have completed their assigned route. This will cause the identified route to be delayed by 15-to-30 minutes. Families will be notified the day of the delay by email, text, and voice messaging. Morning route delay notifications will occur between 5:30-6:30 a.m. and after-school delay notifications will occur by 1 p.m. if a driver shortage occurs. This means students may be required to stand at their bus stop for additional time or they may return home up to 30 minutes later than normal. Each route affected would cause a delay for both the elementary and secondary students riding that bus.

The bus delay message will only be sent to the affected route and it will say the following:
“Attention FPS families of Bus Route ###. Today, [insert date] your morning route will be 15-30 minutes later than normal. Your principal has been notified of your late arrival. “

Or

“Attention FPS families of Bus Route ###: Today, [insert date], your after-school route will arrive home 15-30 minutes later than normal. Students will be supervised at their home building until the bus is available.”

Since communication with families is based on what was entered into the FPS PowerSchool System, we ask that each family review their listed emails and cell phone numbers in the Parent PowerSchool Portal. Please update if needed by calling your child’s main office. This type of communication may be used for other situations that cause significant bussing delays. Students will be excused in the morning if they arrive late to school due to the delayed busing. The buildings will implement a supervision plan for students if the after-school bus is delayed.

Please remember if you decide to drop your student off at their building more than 15 minutes before school, the students will wait outside. Please make sure they have dressed appropriately for the weather.

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Parents can check their child's pick-up time using the "bus route by address" options on the FPS Website <http://www.fargo.k12.nd.us/transportation>.

Although the 2021-22 school year has been challenging, the transportation department and staff at Valley Bus are responding to these challenges and working hard to keep students safe. We thank families for their patience and trust as we navigate staffing challenges.

