



Benilde-St. Margaret's

A Catholic, college-preparatory school, grades 7-12

Benilde-St. Margaret's School Transportation Information For 2021-2022 School Year

Since students arrive at school each day in many different ways, this information is for everyone and explains the many programs BSM has to assist in the transportation process—be it for car or bus riders.

If you plan to use any of the available bus services next fall, please return the registration form by **June 30, 2021** (preferred date) but forms are accepted as received. Several of the buses may fill up, so it would be wise to not postpone sending in your registration.

Reminder—bus registrations are NOT carried forward from year to year—a new form needs to be completed each year.

If there are any questions or concerns about any of the items in this letter, please feel free to call Judy Koski, Transportation Department at 952-927-4176, ext. 2485 or jkoski@BSMschool.org.

Transportation Reimbursement (State Aid)

This item is very important as it affects nearly every student. A complicated Minnesota state law guarantees equal school bus transportation to all students—public and private—or financial aid as a substitute. The average amount of this financial aid for BSM families is approximately \$200 per student or family depending upon the school district of residence.

The application process has been updated relating to the Form 1000, required by most school districts. It is part of the BSM online roundup information process. If your school district requires a special form – the necessary paperwork or instruction on what steps you will need to follow for application in your school district can be provided to you.

St. Louis Park residents do not receive the aid as buses are provided by the public school district. Minneapolis and St. Paul school districts do not participate in the process.

Car Pools

BSM family information may be provided to BSM families interested in creating carpooling options. Contact Judy Koski in the Transportation Department at 952-767-0645 or jkoski@BSMschool.org for more information.

Metro Transit Bus Routes

For more information on public transportation options, contact Metro Transit at 612-373-3333 or online at www.metrotransit.org for any information you may need.

See the back of this page for more information on the BSM bus routes and St. Louis Park public school district busing.

St Louis Park Public School District

General guidelines—Students will ride from their neighborhood each morning to the Park Spanish Immersion School where they will transfer to a shuttle bus heading for BSM. At regular dismissal time, the students will ride the shuttle bus to the St. Louis Park High School where they will transfer to their neighborhood buses for the ride home. (PLEASE NOTE: This dismissal shuttle bus **departs** from BSM at **2:45 p.m.**)

There will be a morning and dismissal bus each day of the public school calendar. There is NO late activity bus provided. There is no charge for this service, but you are asked to register your student in order to receive the shuttle bus information. Schedules will arrive from St. Louis Park District Transportation Office about 10 days before school begins.

To contact St. Louis Park District Transportation Office – please call 612-437-4719, ext. 1

BSM Provided School Bus Routes

General Guidelines—In order to keep route ride times short and enable us to cover a larger area, preference is given for a few location stops (i.e. churches, schools and shopping centers.) However, consideration will be given to a neighborhood stop (not a “house” stop) for a group of five (5) or more students who are registered and riding the bus on a regular basis. Please use the “Other” line on the bus registration form and note the requested stop intersection. Mileage between listed stops, ease of getting to/from location, driving time and other variables will be taken into account when reviewing these requests. *Any prior year stops of fewer than five (5) students may be re-evaluated for continued feasibility.*

General Route Descriptions:

- Excelsior/St. Bart’s
- Eden Prairie/Edina Areas
- Minneapolis North Area
- Minneapolis South Area
- Plymouth/Holy Name

There will be a morning and a dismissal bus. The cost information is available on the bus registration form available at:

<https://www.bsmschool.org/admissions/transportation#overlay-context=node/272>

Please complete and return the registration form to the BSM transportation office. Route times and locations will be sent to your home by mid-August, approx. 10 days before the first day of school.

NEW THIS YEAR --- there will be no time adjustments made for late starts. All morning route buses will run at the same time each school day.

Time adjustments will be made for early release days if needed.