



Mystic Valley Regional Charter School

770 Salem Street • Malden, MA 02148 • Telephone 781-388-0222 • Facsimile 781-388-0777

Important School Bus Transportation Information for FY11 School Year

We would like to share with you some important background information regarding school bus transportation. Over the past several years, the school has received regional bus transportation reimbursement funds from the state as follows:

FY07	\$242,000
FY08	\$324,000
FY09	\$277,000
FY10	\$104,000

During the past school year, our cost for school bus transportation was \$450,000 or just over \$800 per student who used the bus to get to and from the home and school. As you can see, the regional bus transportation reimbursement program from the state has been drastically cut and the forecast for next year is to expect continued significant funding reductions to this program.

As we finalized our FY11 School Budget, we assumed a minimum 4% reduction in funding as a result of the proposed state budget cuts. These are cuts being made to K-12 public education, specifically in Chapter 70 reductions and cuts to local aid that will affect our sending districts. Our goal is to minimize any reductions that will impact the classroom.

The current MBTA student discount fare for taking the bus is \$1.30 each way.

Based on the above information, the school administration presented the following proposal which the Board of Trustees voted to approve at its June 28th Board Meeting:

Increase qualification for school bus transportation to 1.75 linear miles (currently 1.5)

Implement a flat fee of \$200 (\$1 per day) per student that qualifies for bus transportation to and from their home and the school.

Implement a flat fee of \$100 (50 cents per day) per student for those students who do not qualify for bus transportation and would use the shuttle bus service that is currently offered to and from the high school and lower school.

Please see the enclosed FY11 School Bus Transportation application.

Please note that the above fees would be waived or reduced if a student and family qualify for the federal free and reduced meal program for the FY11 school year.

7/19/2010



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Completed applications are due back to the school business office at 671 Salem Street, Malden, MA 02148, by Thursday, August 4th, 2010 in order to be ensured that a seat is available on the bus for the FY11 school year. Qualification letters or e-mail notices will be sent out by August 16th, 2010.

FY11 User Fees (due by August 18, 2010):	<u>Cash or Check</u>	<u>Credit Card</u>
Bus service to or from home	\$200	\$208
Shuttle only to or from LS and HS	\$100	\$104

Please note that only one of the above fees applies to each student. The shuttle fee is for those students who only take the bus to and from the lower school (LS) and high school (HS).

Payment of above fees can be made in two equal installments due by:

August 18th, 2010 and January 19th, 2011

Bus transportation ID cards will be issued to students who apply for and qualify for bus transportation or who want to use the shuttle bus to and from the LS and HS. These ID cards will be distributed at the beginning of the school year and are required to get on the buses in the morning and afternoon.

Final bus routes will be published on the school web site at www.mvracs.org on August 19th, 2010.

If you have any questions about the bus service for the upcoming year, please don't hesitate to contact the business office at 781-324-1824 or by email at rveilleux@mvracs.org.

Sincerely,

Rick Veilleux
School Business Manager

7/19/2010