



Date: March 19, 2025

To: Ms. Julie Schrueder, Principal, Bellows Spring Elementary School

From: Melissa Marchetti, Area Manager, Office of Student Transportation

Re: Non-Transportation Area Boundary Change

I am writing to inform you of a non-transportation area boundary change that will be made to Bellows Spring Elementary School for the 2025-2026 school year. HCPSS Policy 5200 was recently updated which altered the distances measured for identifying non-transportation areas.

As outlined in Board of Education Policy 5200, Student Transportation:

III. Standards

E. Eligibility for transportation

- 1. Transportation services will be available to students when the measured distance between their bona fide residence and the home school is greater than the following, except as otherwise specified within Policy 5200, Implementation Procedures.*
 - a. Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5: 0.75 mile*
 - b. Grade 6 through Grade 8: 1.0 miles*
 - c. Grade 9 through Grade 12: 1.5 miles*
- 2. The bona fide residence of the parents will be used to determine eligibility for transportation services. Distances will be calculated utilizing transportation software as follows:*
 - a. Detached homes and townhouses – Measurement will be from the residence property line to the property boundary of the school from the closest adjacent suitable pathway.*
 - b. Apartment complexes and condominiums – Measurement will be from the property boundary of the complex to the property boundary of the school from the closest adjacent suitable pathway.*

As outlined in Board of Education Policy 5200-IP Implementation Procedures

I. Eligibility for Transportation Services

- A. Distance criteria will be adhered to concerning walking to a school bus stop or when determining eligibility for school bus service provided that traffic and/or walking conditions meet a reasonable level of safety and/or conditions permit safe bus operations. Some students may be required to walk to a school bus stop or to school in excess of the stated distance if a reasonable level of safety cannot be achieved.*

- B. *In establishing the demarcation line between transported and non-transported areas, the Office of Student Transportation may extend these distances to coincide with breaks in the pattern of homes, such as cul-de-sac, street intersections, major roadways, streams, parks, walking easements, commercial property, vacant land, unusual contour variations, and other features. These distances will be capped at 0.1 miles at the elementary school level and 0.15 miles at middle and high school levels.*
- C. *Where applicable, the Office of Student Transportation will identify geographic areas where exceptions are made to the eligibility criteria because of safety reasons. When this occurs, the Office of Student Transportation will notify the appropriate school-based administration of the exception.*

Due to pedestrian safety improvements, the following addresses are no longer eligible for transportation service:

- Briar Ct (all addresses)
- Knolls Ct (all addresses)
- Manchester Way (all addresses)
- Stratford Ct (all addresses)
- Sutton Ct (all addresses)

A new map depicting this change will be reflected on the HCPSS school information website and the school and bus locator application will be updated soon.

Please inform these families of this change and contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

By email
Attachments

Cc: Mr. Jahantab Siddiqui, Director, Office of Student Transportation
Mr. Adam Downes, Coordinator of Transportation, Planning & Technology
Mr. Chris Fritz, Coordinator of Transportation, Contracted Services
Ms. Melissa Marchetti, Transportation Area Manager
Ms. Roxana Mero, Transportation Field Specialist
Mr. Timothy Rogers, Manager, School Planning Office
School File