

# Transportation FAQ's

- There are many bus stops very close to each other – why?
  - Bus stops are routed based on Board of Education policy 8410. Some road stops are closer than policy due to road conditions, bus safety committee recommendations, student special education needs and 504 accommodations for students.
- Why are buses parked along road ways, in shopping plazas, parking lots etc?
  - WCSD has a three tier bus system where the start times of our schools and out of district schools and programs that we transport to must be routed in the most efficient manner possible. For some routes it is not efficient for the vehicles to travel the distance back to the bus depot to wait until the next tier or run to begin

# Transportation FAQ's cont'd

- Why do our busses never seem to be full?
  - There are many reasons why WVSD's busses may appear "empty". WCSD is 100% transportation and every child is entitled to a seat on a school bus. Transportation bases their routing on this premise. Additionally WCSD follow's Board of Education policy related to the bus ridership time.
  - In addition to being on the road from 5:30am to 5:30 pm daily for standard routing to include in-district and out of district programs, there are also sports trips, daily shuttling for maintenance between facilities and Department of Transportation inspections. Our 263 drivers cover the 120 mile radius within our district as well as traveling to Sullivan, Orange, Westchester, Putnam and Rockland counties daily so this great distance does indeed call for "empty" vehicles.
- Is it true that bus drivers cannot use cell phones while driving?
  - Bus drivers should NEVER be using cell phones or hands free devices while driving a school bus, while at a bus stop, while students are on board their vehicles so that their attention is focused on safety. ONLY in emergency situations when the driver cannot access their radio communication should a cell phone be used only when the vehicle is pulled over and in park.