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RE: Transportation Clarification for High School Students: Snow Days/ Delays/ Early Release

As winter draws closer, I wanted to send a note describing our long standing practices regarding transportation and unforeseen situations, such as bad weather:

It has been the long-standing practice that High School student transportation services (buses and vans) provided by the Canterbury Public Schools follow the open/closed/delay/early release schedule implemented by the Canterbury Public Schools for any particular school day when an unforeseen situation (usually weather) warrants a change from the planned schedule for that particular day.

Daily, we transport high school students to Woodstock Academy, Norwich Free Academy, Norwich Technical, Ellis Technical, Killingly High School (Vo-Ag), Griswold High School, and Quinebaug Middle College. The weather varies immensely on any given day at these various locations. Here are a few examples of what may occur:

Example 1: Canterbury Public Schools are closed because of weather and your HS is not closed; there will be No transportation to any of the area high schools, regardless of the status of the school day in the various high schools. The HS will not penalize you for being absent if Canterbury Public Schools is closed. Parents may drive their child to school if their HS is open.

Example 2: Canterbury has a regular school day and an area high school has a delay in its opening, our high school buses will pick up HS students on their regular schedule, and bring them to Baldwin Middle School, to wait until it is time to go to the HS and it was deemed safe for the bus to continue on its journey to the designated HS. Adult supervision of the students held in our library is provided by the Canterbury Public Schools.

Example 3: Canterbury has a delay and your High school does not; the bus will pick up students on the delay schedule and bring them to their HS at the delay time. The HS will not penalize you for being tardy if Canterbury Public Schools has a delayed opening. Parents may choose to drive their students to the their respective schools at any time.

Please also be aware that any unanticipated early closings do not follow the above practice and are implemented on a case-by-case basis. However, in the event that an area high school closes early, we do try to get our buses to the school in time for the early closing.

Finally, there is some good news to report. Canterbury Public Schools uses a mass communication system called BlackBoard; announcements can be disseminated via phone, text or email (your choice), to those who register for the service; this allows you to receive accurate and timely information whenever the need arises. If you are not registered for this service, please contact Central Office to be sure we have your correct phone number(s) on file.

Feel free to contact my office if you have any further questions or comments.