



JAMESTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Mrs. Contessa Pelfrey, Superintendent

Mrs. Sarah Gillum, Principal

March 22, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians and Families,

As you are aware Jamestown School District has had many challenges over the past few years in our ability to hire and retain school bus drivers which has affected our ability to provide consistent and reliable school transportation. Due to the bus driver shortage, we have needed to reduce routes, create double bus runs, or cancel routes altogether due to driver absences. Additionally, we have had to restrict our field trips to local areas only in order for bus drivers to be back at school in time to run dismissal bus routes, and we have not been able to expand our extracurricular activities.

As a result of these challenges, Jamestown School District, Curtis Creek Elementary, Sonora Elementary and Sonora High School are pursuing a shared services transportation agreement which is designed to streamline operational efficiency and ensure reliable home-to-school transportation for our students. Pending the outcome of negotiations with each of the district's labor partners, the proposed plan is anticipated to be implemented in the 2024-2025 school year.

Jamestown School District, along with other districts, has participated in an in-depth two-year study geared towards optimizing driver recruitment and efficiency, enhancing student services, and achieving superior fleet utilization. The proposed transportation model anticipates a reduction in students' time spent on buses, thereby enhancing their daily school experience. With a commitment to transitioning to a dependable service model, the plan ensures the availability of home-to-school transportation, field trips, and extracurricular activities.

In order to facilitate this shared service proposal, beginning in the 2024-2025 school year both Jamestown Elementary and Chinese Camp Elementary will begin school at 8:00 AM and will be dismissed at 2:20 PM on Tuesday- Friday and 1:20 PM on Mondays. Even though the start and end times for both schools are the same, Chinese Camp will continue to have bus transportation from JES to Chinese Camp in the morning, and a bus from Chinese Camp back to JES in the afternoon. A key aspect of the proposed shared services agreement is the commitment to keeping high school and elementary school students on separate home-to-school bus routes. The introduction of staggered school start and end times is a strategic measure to accommodate this, ensuring dedicated transportation for each age group without overlap.

We will be communicating additional information as it evolves throughout this process. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for any questions at (209) 984-4058 ext. 3154 or cpelfrey@jespanthers.org.

In Partnership,

Contessa Pelfrey, Superintendent
Jamestown School District