

# As The Wheel Turns



## A NOTE FROM MR. JOHNSON

Team –

Congratulations on making it through the first month of school for the 2023-2024 school year. We did it together!

As we begin a new month and approach **School Bus Safety Week**—which runs from October 16 to 21—I wanted to take a moment to highlight our commitment to ensuring the safety of our students during their daily commute to and from school. The **hard work** and **dedication** you put into getting our students to and from school **safely** and **on time** is truly appreciated.

**The safety of our students is our top priority** – and we will continue to work towards maintaining the highest standards of safety for our school bus transportation. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our students and their safety.

See you on the road,  
Mr. Johnson



# MEET THE 2023-2024 BUS DRIVER ADVISORY GROUP

***Members: Annette McDaniel, Latanjelyn Middleton-Hill, Carrie Gause, Lacesia McClure, Marcia Harris, Clevanetta Taylor, Carol Lloyd, Charmaine Wilson, Ricardo Nicholas, Katina Gamble, Tracy Freeman, Kimyata Leak, Laquisha Mercer, Ezrea Means.***

We're excited to announce the launch of our new driver council, designed to give our amazing drivers a voice and a platform to share their brilliant insights and suggestions with us. We're all about fostering an environment of positivity and collaboration, and we genuinely believe that the invaluable input of our drivers will lead to better outcomes for our department and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools community.

**Interested in sharing an idea or suggestion?** Connect with your area manager and advisor for for additional information.

## 2023-2024 WILDLY IMPORTANT GOALS

**1**

**We will increase our AM on-time arrival (OTA) rate from 91% to 93% and our PM on-time arrival rate from 87% to 89% by June 2024.**

**2**

**We will decrease our annual DPI inspection score from 48 points to 42 points.**

**3**

**We will hire and retrain 9% more technician staff and 5% more full-time drivers than in the previous fiscal year.**

## 2023-2024 WIDLY IMPORTANT GOALS SEPTEMBER AVERAGES

**1**

**Average September Morning OTA: 90.5%**  
**Average September Afternoon OTA: 87.6%**

**2**

**Average DPI Score: 56.76**

**3**

**Drivers Hired (September): 26**  
**Technicians Hired (September): 3**

# BUS SAFETY UPDATES

## REFERRAL BONUS

We are excited to announce a referral bonus of \$379 for the 2023-2024 school year aimed at recruiting new CMS bus drivers. This bonus is only available if a new driver has completed at least 60 full-time work days. To claim the bonus, the new driver must report who referred them on the first day of bus class. Previously employed drivers and exempt employees are not eligible for this bonus. Thank you for helping us find skilled school bus drivers to join our elite team!

## NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK

Mark your calendars for National School Bus Safety Week from October 16 to October 20! This year's theme is "Safely Rolling to My Destination".

- In exciting news, the Charlotte Hornets have generously given us 20 tickets for their Pre-Season Game on Sunday, October 15. Keep an eye out for details on how you can be selected to attend the game! Our Transportation team will also have a table set up to distribute safety materials.
- Additionally, we will be partnering with Hugo from the Charlotte Hornets, Transportation staff, CMS Communications, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Police Department to create a series of public service announcements.
- Don't forget to participate in our safety poster contest as well! More details coming soon.

# UNAUTHORIZED STOPS AND UNAUTHORIZED PASSENGERS ENTERING THE SCHOOL BUS

- North Carolina law considers entering a school bus without permission unlawful and may result in a trespassing charge. You should not allow anyone on to the school bus that is not authorized to do so.
- CMS Transportation will provide services to and from school for eligible students with bus stops and bus route assignments based on their residence address in the District's student information system. A school bus driver is not allowed to make a stop that is not on their route without authorization. Bus drivers shall not stop at any location with or without students onboard. The bus driver cannot change buses, routes, or bus stops without authorization. Safety must not be compromised to appease anyone. If a bus driver has an emergency, they just call their area office.

## SUMBIT YOUR NEWS AND UPDATES!

### **Want to be featured in the CMS Transportation Newsletter?**

Email Tom Miner for more details and information!

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