

Chaminade and Tumbleweed Transportation Program Shuttle Bus Information Program

The following information will answer any questions you may have concerning our school bus program and policies, but you are welcomed to call Chaminade or Tumbleweed if you have any other questions.

Tumbleweed's goal is to provide safe, dependable and convenient transportation for Chaminade families. We think you will be very satisfied with the quality of service you receive throughout the school year.

DRIVERS

All drivers are required to hold a valid California Commercial Driver's License and School Bus Certificate. They must have a good driving record and participate in 40 hours of behind the wheel and classroom training. We take special care to ensure that our drivers use the utmost caution in driving your children, and we have complete confidence that our experienced drivers will make taking the bus the safest way to get to school.

BUSES

We maintain our buses so that they are in excellent condition at all times, and each bus holds a certificate of inspection issued by the CHP. Each bus is equipped with seat belts, which are required to be worn at all times (it would be helpful if you would encourage your child to always wear the seatbelt). Drivers are required to do a maintenance and safety inspection of their buses each morning before they do their routes to ensure the safety of all passengers.

ROUTE PROCEDURES

Although we have given you a time initially, the times may be adjusted after the first two weeks of school when the routine becomes precise. We have estimated morning pick up times based on the previous years schedules; and as everyone becomes familiar with the routine, the route may become shorter possible allowing the morning times to be later. You will be notified in writing if we make any changes to the schedule. Please be patient during the first few days of school. Attendance will need to be taken during those two weeks to ensure that all forms have been filled out and returned for each bus rider. And although the routes are well planned and the buses are maintained in top working order, unpredictable delays do happen. For instance, unexpected breakdowns and mechanical problems, route delays with city maintenance, and traffic accidents on freeways may delay the buses getting to their appointed routes. We thank you in advance for understanding. Since the buses will keep the same schedule every day, your pick up times will become consistent after everyone gets used to the routine.

COMMUNICATIONS

If you have any questions or concerns about the school bus shuttle program at any time during the school year, please call Betty at Chaminade (818) 366 – 9284. Please be advised that state law requires the School to approve any changes to the route. If you wish to discuss concerns about safety or daily procedures, you may contact Tumbleweed at (310) 444-3232. Please understand, however, that the School's contract is between Chaminade and Tumbleweed, not directly with the parents. Under the terms of the contract, no changes whatsoever will be made to the route during the first two weeks of school.

BUS RULES

The following rules are posted in each bus and enforced for the safety of all passengers and drivers. Please make sure that your child is familiar with the rules. In the event of continued misconduct, the driver will give a verbal warning to the bus rider. A subsequent violation will be reported to the dean at Chaminade. A third violation could result in a warning, a meeting with the driver, School Director and Bus Supervisor, a temporary suspension, and ultimately a permanent suspension.

- 1. Remain seated at all times.**
- 2. Keep seat belt fastened at all times.**
- 3. No unnecessary noise, shouting, profanity, or boisterous conduct allowed.**
- 4. Keep all parts of the body inside the bus.**
- 5. Be courteous to other passengers.**
- 6. No eating, drinking, or smoking while on the bus.**
- 7. Shoes with cleats or spikes may not be worn on the bus.**
- 8. No hazardous articles or weapons.**
- 9. Animals or pets may not be brought on the bus.**
- 10. Only assigned passengers are allowed to ride the bus.**

In addition to these rules, all passengers must abide by the following guidelines:

- 1. Students must board the bus quickly and take their seats immediately.**
- 2. Students shall remain seated in a forward position at all times.**
- 3. Seats are not to be changed while bus is moving.**
- 4. No gum chewing on the bus.**
- 5. Arrive at bus stop at least five minutes before departure. DO NOT chase the buses or try to cut them off if you miss the bus. Simply proceed to the other campus in your own car.**
- 6. If parents have concerns or feel that the bus driver did something they don't like, they should NOT attempt to discipline the drivers or even discuss it with them. This is Tumbleweed's job to do, so please call Tumbleweed and know that they will address all issues seriously and promptly.**
- 7. Please regularly remind your child to follow all bus rules and driver instructions, and to be polite and well behaved on the bus.**
- 8. Remember that the buses are an extension of the classrooms at Chaminade, and all students and parents should approach the drivers with the same respect and decorum as the teachers in the school.**

Safety is always the first concern on the bus; therefore, students must exhibit safe behavior at all times and behave so that they do not provoke anyone else into exhibiting unsafe behavior.

Thank you for participating in the school shuttle bus program. We hope this will be a pleasant and helpful experience for you and your student. We look forward to a great school year!