



**SAHUARITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

October 4, 2022

Dear Sahuarita Families:

In late August, the Sahuarita USD Transportation Department implemented a rotating bus schedule in which routes were suspended for one week due to a severe bus driver shortage. The District has been actively working to recruit and train new bus drivers to fill those positions that were left open unexpectedly at the beginning of the year. The purpose of this letter is to provide an update to our families on the temporary disruption to our bus service.

We are making favorable progress to routes being fully restored. Over the last couple of months, we have hired nine (9) drivers. The new drivers are in varying stages of the training process, which takes six to twelve weeks from the time of hire date to the conclusion of training and certification. With the new hires, Sahuarita USD's shortage of qualified school bus drivers has been reduced to two (2) vacancies for regular routes.

**At this time, it is necessary to continue the bus suspension schedule when students return from fall break.** The updated bus suspension schedule is included with this letter. Barring any unforeseen changes to the current staffing and training process, we expect to begin restoring suspended routes as early as the first week of November. We will continue to utilize every available properly licensed driver employed by the District, including office staff, mechanics, and 3rd party drivers, to cover open routes as needed. Families will be informed once their route is restored.

We understand the reduction in bus routes created a disruption for many of our families, and we sincerely appreciate your patience, understanding, and support as we continue to do everything possible to safely and efficiently meet the increase in student ridership while addressing our driver shortage.

The Sahuarita USD Transportation Department safely buses nearly 3400 students to and from school each day traveling over 6000 miles. The Transportation Department also provides busing for sports and other extracurricular activities. We are committed to providing reliable, safe service. Rest assured, we will continue to monitor transportation challenges daily and look forward to restoring services as we are able.

If you or someone you know is interested in driving a bus for Sahuarita USD, we encourage you to explore our [positions available](#) on our employment website. No experience is needed. We provide all training and full benefits.

**Office of Community Outreach**

 520.625.3502

 350 W. Sahuarita Rd, Sahuarita, AZ 85629

 [www.susd30.us](http://www.susd30.us)

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*Working as a team to help every student succeed.*



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**Quarter 2 Temporary Bus Route Suspension Schedule**

	Dates of Suspension (Monday-Friday)	Routes Suspended
Week 1	10/17/2022 - 10/21/2022	Route 2 (SPS, SMS, SHS) Route 3 (SPS, SMS, SHS) Route 5 (SIS, ATS, WGHS) Route 7 (SPS, SMS, SHS) Route 26 (WRS, ATS, WGHS)
Week 2	10/24/2022 - 10/28/2022	Route 10 (SPS, SIS) Route 15 (SIS, CVES, WGHS) Route 23 (SMS) Route 24 (SHS) Route 33 (WRS, SHS)
Week 3	10/31/2022 - 11/04/2022	Route 9 (SPS, SMS, SHS) Route 17 (SIS, CVES, WGHS) Route 20 (SMS, SHS) Route 21 (SMS, SHS) Route 32 (WRS, ATS, WGHS)
Week 4	11/07/2022 - 11/11/2022 <i>*no school 11/11/2022</i>	Route 4 (SPS, SMS, SHS) Route 29 (WRS, ATS, WGHS) Route 38 (SMS) Route 39 (SOP) Route 40 (SOP)
Week 5	11/14/2022 - 11/18/2022	Route 12 (SIS, CVES) (SHS/PM ONLY) Route 19 (WRS, CVES) (WGHS/PM ONLY) Route 31 (SIS, ATS, WGHS) Route 34 (SHS) Route 36 (WRS, ATS, SHS)
Week 6	11/21/2022 - 11/25/2022 <i>*no school 11/24/2022 &amp; 11/25/2022</i>	Route 1 (SPS, SIS, SMS, SHS) Route 16 (SMS, SHS) Route 7 (SPS, SMS, SHS) Route 25 (WRS, ATS) (WGHS/PM ONLY) Route 26 (WRS, ATS, WGHS)

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