At Transportation Services, we would like to express our thankfulness to our amazing JPS families! Thank you for your support in reinforcing bus rider rules at home and making sure that your students are out and ready at their bus stops. Your effort does not go unnoticed! We want to also extend our thanks to our awesome bus drivers who make it possible for so many students to get to and from school safely!

We hope that you and your family enjoys the Thanksgiving break and that many wonderful memories will be made!

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Mrs. Kristin has been a bus driver at JPS for 11 years. She can be seen daily driving the Panda bus to and from the Junior High, High School and Bauerwood Elementary.

When asked what she likes about being a bus driver, Mrs. Kristin said, "I get to drive something BIG!". But on a serious note, she loves the relationships that she builds with her students and their families.

When she is not driving bus, she is "junking" - shopping at garage sales and thrift stores. She also loves spending time at the beach. Many may not know this but she is also an amazing pianist!

We appreciate Mrs. Kristin's passion and dedication to the many families she has and continues to serve!
Mrs. Jean has been a bus driver for JPS for a little over 13 years. She can be seen daily driving the Frog bus to and from the Junior High, High School and Sandy Hill Elementary.

When asked what she enjoys most about being a bus driver, Mrs. Jean said, "First and foremost it's the kiddos. I love talking and interacting with them. I also love the group of people I work with and the friendships I have made over the years."

When Mrs. Jean is not driving bus she enjoys spending time with her family and grandchildren. When the weather is warm she loves working and being out in her yard. She also loves antiques, repurposing items and crafting.

We appreciate Mrs. Jean's passion and dedication to the many families she has and continues to serve!
WHEN TO REPORT A BUS ABSENCE

Is your child receiving Special Transportation?

YES:

- Please notify Transportation Services about your child's bus absences, preferably the day before.
- Call 616-457-3740 and leave a message or email Transportation@jpsonline.org

NO:

- If your child is going to be absent from the bus for 1 or 2 days, you no longer need to contact Transportation Services.
- Bus absences that are 3 days or more, please call 616-457-3740 or email Transportation@jpsonline.org
- For last minute changes to your child's afternoon schedule (e.g. your child will be parent pick-up rather than riding the bus) please notify your child's school secretary of this change.
Snow and ice can make road conditions slippery. The following are winter school bus safety tips that will help keep your child safe throughout the winter months.

- Students who walk to or wait at school bus stops should dress appropriately for cold, icy weather. Proper outerwear includes warm coats, gloves, hats and waterproof footwear.

- Students should wait 10 feet from where the bus stops and wait for the bus to stop completely before approaching the bus to load. Always use caution when stepping on or off the bus (utilizing the handrails) and wait for the driver’s signal to cross in front of the bus when loading and unloading.

- Remember the “Danger Zone” around the bus. Loading and unloading is the most dangerous time when riding the bus. Staying out of the danger zone will help ensure the driver is able to see you and make loading and unloading safer.

- Students should never run after the bus. Plan ahead and allow sufficient time to get to the bus stop. Please remember, when we wait on your student to run out of the house to get to the bus, the bus falls behind on the route and it forces all of the other students on that route to wait longer in the cold.

- School delays or closings may occur when officials determine that weather conditions are too severe to ensure safe travel to and from school. Parents will receive a phone call via School Messenger reporting a delay/closing and this information will also be available on local news channels.
JOIN OUR TEAM!

Are you a stay-at-home mom or dad looking to work a few hours a week? Are you retired? Are you someone that enjoys being around children? Then bus driving might be right for you!

We are currently hiring bus drivers. No previous bus driving experience required. Not only will we train you, but the starting rate for a bus driver is $18.42 per hour and you get to work with a group of awesome people!

If you are interested or know of someone who would be great for this position, please contact us at 616-457-3740 or Transportation@jpsonline.org