

Rules And Regulations For Student Travel On NFTA Metro Public Transit

New Metro Pass System

- Metro Passes contain an RFID chip.
- **Do not bend, fold, mutilate, or perforate your Metro Pass. If the chip is damaged, the card will not work with NFTA's electronic readers.**
- Each pass must be "tapped" on the fare box to register the ride every boarding.
- Passes are uniquely numbered and registered with BPS authorities.
- Only one Metro pass per student will be active at any given time. There is no reason to request additional passes. If you request a new pass, your old pass will be inactivated.

General

- You have the same rights as any rider of the NFTA Metro system. You also have the same responsibilities as any rider of the NFTA Metro system.
- Metro Bus and Rail is an extension of the school day. Appropriate behavior is always expected while in the Metro System. There will be consequences for poor behavior while on NFTA Metro.
- Student behavior expectations are outlined in the District's Code of Conduct. Failure to adhere to the rules and regulations of the District and the NFTA may result in the pass being changed to a limited access pass or possibly confiscated.
- Stickers will be used to identify extended extracurricular (aka Sports) passes, passes that can be used out-of-district, and passes that are allowed to use the Metro Rail.

Pass Types

- **Blue Pass** (dismissal at or before 2:45 PM)
Green Pass (dismissal after 2:45 PM) – provided to all eligible students in grades K and above. Students may use these passes between the hours of 5:00 AM and 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM until two hours after dismissal. **All travel must be completed by two hours after dismissal. These**

student pass types will not be activated for use or honored by Metro, more than two hours after your school's dismissal time. These pass types will identify routes that students must use to get home in the afternoon. Students may use alternate routes to get to school in the morning.

- **Yellow Pass** – provided to all eligible students that are enrolled in work study programs. Students may use this pass between the hours of 5:00 AM and 7:00 PM. **All travel must be completed by 7:00 PM. This student pass type will not be activated for use or honored by Metro, after 7:00 PM.** There is no routing assigned to this pass type.

Who, when and where you can use your pass

- Your bus pass can only be used on official school days.
- Your bus pass can only be used by you. You cannot share your pass with another student or anyone else.
- If you need a different route assignment you must fill out a PM Routing Change Request Form. Your school Security Officer will have these forms available. You can also download the form at: www.buffaloschools.org.
- All Route assignments will be permanent after December 22, 2024. After this date Route assignments will only be changed if you move.
- You need to purchase a ticket or have a valid form of payment if you are using Metro and your pass is not valid.
- You **MUST** use the Specials if they are available at your school at dismissal.
- Your bus pass can only be used during the hours marked on the pass.
- School security officers can answer any questions or concerns regarding transportation arrangements.



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When you must show your pass

- Your bus pass must be shown face up to the Bus Operator each time you board a bus.
- All riders must show their pass, or proof of payment, to a Police Officer or Fare Inspector when asked on the Rail.

Riding rules

- You must follow all posted rules and regulations of the NFTA. This includes following all traffic-related laws both while on NFTA vehicles and while boarding and exiting.
- While arriving at or embarking from a Metro bus you must follow all safety regulations. A Metro Bus does not have the same safety devices that a yellow school bus has. There are no stop lights to notify drivers that you are crossing a street. It is important that you **NEVER** cross in front of a metro bus. You must wait for the bus to pass by and then proceed to cross the street if it is safe to do so.
- You are not allowed to loiter or wait in or around Rail Stations, on school premises or at bus stops.
- **If you do not have a “RAIL” sticker, please do not enter the train stations.** If you need to be in a Rail Station, move immediately to the Boarding Platform and board the train.
- Prohibited activities while on buses or trains or train stations include but are not limited to:
 - Eating or drinking
 - Playing electronic devices without headphones
 - Fighting
 - Use of vulgar language
 - Throwing objects
 - Possession of any weapons
 - Any criminal activities
- Smoking is prohibited on all NFTA property & vehicles. This includes ALL forms of tobacco, vaping and e-cigarettes.

- Good behavior is expected at all times while in the Metro system.
- Criminal behaviors such as fighting or weapons on the NFTA Metro system will result in your pass being revoked and may be handled in the legal system.
- You must show respect for Bus Operators, Police Officers, Fare Inspectors and school officials if they question you about your bus pass use.
- If the Bus Operator, Fare Inspector or Police Officer asks you to surrender your pass, do so cooperatively. Report the incident to your school ASAP.

Consequences for inappropriate behavior

- Failure to adhere to NFTA rules and regulations may result in suspension of transportation services.

Replacing a lost or missing pass

- If you lose your pass, your parent or other responsible party must complete and sign an **Application to Replace a Lost or Stolen Bus Pass**. This form can be submitted online at: Buffaloschools.org

OR

- Your school Security Officer can submit an Application to Replace a Lost or Stolen Bus Pass.

The process to obtain a replacement pass for lost, missing or confiscated passes can take up to 10 days.

