**How Are You Using Your Transportation System to Combat COVID-19**

**Responses collected by the**

**Council of the Great City Schools**

**March 24, 2020**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| School System | Responses |
|  |  |
| Albuquerque | Using the current Food and Nutrition staff to hand out breakfast and lunch to families that drive up to the schools. Currently not using drivers due to the vulnerability of that work staff (age and health issues). |
| Anchorage | Using school buses to deliver meals on a total of 6 routes. |
| Atlanta | APS started delivering meals via buses on Wednesday.  Have given operators and monitors a three-question memo to answer, they can report to work, self-declare that they are in a high-risk category as defined by the CDC, or they are facing childcare issues due to closing daycare facilities.  Those who self-declare in the 2nd and 3rd categories are teleworking.  The teleworking is very much a work in progress but essentially constitutes on-line training (if they have a PC and internet) and a daily conference call to earn their 4 hour minimum.  Goal is to pay our folks while schools are closed but also staff up.  Some 74% of the operator/monitor workforce has self-declared in the 2nd and 3rd category.  With tiering, able to staff enough operators to feed students.  Additionally, issuing both breakfast and lunch bags simultaneously on a two-tier run system that starts at 10:00 a.m. and concludes at 12:00 p.m. with two food supply runs in between.  Took Middle School runs, that cover the entire cluster boundary and changed the times to ensure we have walk-zone stops.  Have concurrent partnerships with other food pantries and delivery organizations to expand upon our coverage to charter schools, transitional students and homeless shelters. Any undelivered meals go straight to our partners at the last stop who then deliver. Bus operators are only charged with driving the run, there is a district police officer and volunteer on board to issue the bags of food out of the back door of the bus and maintain the food distribution tally sheet.  Update (3.30.2020)  Most schools are setting up outside. Fortunately, the weather was warm and sunny last week so people could set up in front of the schools. But, some schools did use drive up approaches. My advice is to prepare everything over the phone (i.e., match serial numbers to students) and then there is no need for any person-to-person contact. People can be scheduled (using google forms) 5-10 minutes apart. |
| Aurora | Converted 4 Activity Buses (MFSAB's) to rolling kitchens to support the Meals on Wheels program which is completely staffed and supported by the Nutrition Services department two years ago. Being utilized to distribute free meals to anyone under the age of 18 at various sites throughout the district. Link to conversion - <https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/aurora-takes-its-summer-food-program-on-the-road-with-mobile-cafes/73-a2192e0e-04ea-4e40-8da0-49d63cde3e61> |
| Austin | On Monday, started 16 curbside sites and 13 buses making 54 stops. Added another 50 bus stops on 3/30.  The bus routes are helping to keep food service and transportation staff paid. |
| Boston | Serving grab 'n go meals curbside and walk-up in 16 locations. Currently at 12% of participation. Provide the meals Monday through Friday with a combination of staff and volunteers. Have about 5,500 students that receive door to door transportation from home to school, so next week we are launching meal deliveries to those students and their siblings. Will be using our buses and bus monitors for assistance. |
| Charleston | * Through a collaborative effort with Nutrition Services, are utilizing buses and drivers to deliver meals to large apartment complexes, trailer parks, churches, and community centers. At this time, have 18 schools identified as Grab & Go Meal sites along with about 30 meal delivery sites. * Utilizing (10) WIFI equipped buses to extend WIFI coverage to rural areas in our district. This program is running from 8 - 4, Monday - Friday. * Currently in the process of establishing an IT repair/drop off route, where families/teachers can drop off or exchange their school issued devices for troubleshooting. Our plan is to create a revolving schedule with 1/2 hour time intervals at various schools throughout the District. * [CCSD Meals](https://ccsdschoolmeals.com/) * [CCSD Meal Site Delivery](https://www.ccsdschools.com/cms/lib/SC50000504/Centricity/Domain/4/CCSD%20School%20Bus%20Siteversion1.pdf) |
| Cincinnati | Was not feasible to use school busses to transport meals before we closed, because there were over 500 buses that ran routes just for elementary schools each morning and afternoon. Did not have the capacity to have an additional person on each bus doing accountability for meal service, and do not have enough insulated coolers to place on buses to keep food temperature safe. Have hubs stationed throughout our district where we are feeding anyone 18 and under regardless if they attend a CPS school. (Needs updating.) |
| Cleveland | Created 22 meal sites at schools around the district and geographically created pick up locations at schools in the area to transport students to meal sites. Using a fog daily to disinfect buses. |
| Des Moines | Food Service staff are delivering meals in their trucks. Not using bus drivers during this time. They are currently on spring break and will not be paid. |
| Detroit | Has 58 schools serving grab and go breakfast and lunches.  Identified 1,484 of our most vulnerable students (Autistic, Physically Impaired, Cognitively Impaired, Visually Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Medical Fragile) and are delivering a breakfast and lunch to each of these students and siblings in the household.  In all, we have approximately 2,750 students being serviced at 1,484 house stops on 67 buses.  Each bus route is delivering 20-25 stops.  Each bus has a driver and another dedicated individual to take the food to the door. |
| Durham | Durham Public Schools’ School Nutrition Services, in conjunction with the Transportation Department, are serving meals to eighty-one (81) sites throughout Durham County.  We have thirteen (13) food preparation school sites.  Each preparation site prepares and serves meals at those schools and also packs meals to put on buses.  One or two School Nutrition Services team members gets on the bus with the food in order to serve and complete the accountability paperwork. |
| Guilford County (Greensboro) | Utilizing Yellow Buses to deliver breakfast to:   * McKinney Vento Families * Shelters, Hotels and Motels * Mobile and Satellite Sites * Also using buses to deliver mobile devices to students for virtual learning * Not electing to drop lunches at bus stops for student to pick up at this time. * Have staggered DoT shifts to eliminate mass gathering of drivers at any given time. * Other personnel staff are working 4 hours in the office and 4 hours at home. |
| Hillsborough County (Tampa) | 50 drivers will assist in getting meals out next week but working on a plan to expand from there. Able to secure VPN's for our routers who will be able to work from home and creating shift work to minimize number of employees at any one place at any one time. Will pay them during this time, and the district understands if we lose them we won't get them back. |
| Indianapolis | Established locations at strategic points in the community to deliver boxed food in collaboration with a local food pantry. The pantry loads yellow buses, which then distribute at each site. Paid particular attention to higher poverty areas and concentrated more food in those areas, which are also food deserts. |
| Jefferson County (Louisville) | Have over 900 bus runs. But if this goes on, will deploy buses in high F/R areas. (Needs updating.) |
| Minneapolis | District has adopted a temporary policy that the drivers will be paid for the time we are shut down due to COVID-19 |
| Norfolk | Sent one bus out today, for the first time, to 3 neighborhoods.  This is in addition to the 12 pick- up sites we have.   The school division wants us to consider doing more but doesn’t have enough coolers, etc.  Concerned for the safety and well-being of staff.  Everyone else in the city is sheltering safely at home, while we are serving meals, outside.  Not doing any type of health screenings for staff.  Don’t have hand sanitizer, masks or any other PPDs.  Just using regular hand soap, disposable gloves and sanitizers, like we every day. |
| Orange County (Orlando) | Have planned to have buses go to low income housing areas, trailer parks or motels to deliver meals to students. We will open 50 sites to serve breakfast and lunch next week. For these sites the district is providing security and administrative help. All schools are entered through one gate so the capacity driving through, walk –ups, and bicycles.  Have set up over 50 school sites for Grab and Go meals from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Webpage[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| Pittsburgh | Food Service staff are delivering meals in their trucks. Not using bus drivers currently. Contract out to 19 different carriers. |
| Portland | Not using buses in the delivery of grab and go meals for students.  Nutrition services is currently using their own staff and vehicles to provide food at 15 underserved schools.  Will expand services to include some community partners/housing in those same school boundaries starting 3/30.  Have offered drivers to assist Nutrition in the event there is fatigue or illness as this response continues to draw out.  Delivering paper-based curriculum, translation and mental health services at the same meal sites.  Also looking into the possibility of providing online instructions but are not able to provide 1 to 1 devices to families. |
| Richmond | Using yellow buses to distribute meals to special needs students on same bus routes |
| St. Paul | Saint Paul splits the bus routes over the course of 3 days (Wed-Fri).  We're handing out meal boxes with a week's supply of meals (5 breakfast and 5 lunches).  Every bus follows their normal route, normal stops, normal times.  At the end of the route, there is a curb side pick-up option at the schools for the first 30 minutes of the regularly scheduled school day.  A glimpse of the schedule is on our web site at <https://www.spps.org/Page/38722> and video. |
| St. Louis | Has 25 centers identified throughout the city and serve breakfast and lunch from 8:00 AM to 12 noon Monday  through Friday. Have 10 buses picking up the packaged food from the 4 satellite kitchens for delivery to the serving centers. May shift the plan if participation is low to door-door and corner stops delivery. |

1. <https://www.ocps.net/cms/One.aspx?portalId=54703&pageId=1404484> k [↑](#footnote-ref-1)