



Date: August 22, 2023

To: Non-Public School Parents

From: Gregory J. Cohen
Director of Transportation

Re: Non-Public Transportation Information for 23-24 School Year

In an effort to make the process of Aid in Lieu (AIL) of Transportation more efficient, we have teamed up with the Sussex Regional Cooperative starting with the 2023-2024 school year to handle and process all of our Aid in Lieu paperwork. Notification has been sent to all of the non-public not for profit schools. Moving forward, please do not send any forms to the West Orange Transportation office. All appropriate documentation must be sent to the address on the letter from Sussex Regional Cooperative.

New Jersey Law (18A:39-1.8) **requires** all public school districts to offer either transportation or what is known as “Aid in Lieu of Transportation” to students who attend a non-public not for profit school, if their school falls within 2 to 20 miles (for elementary and middle schools) or 2.5 to 20 miles (for high schools) from their home in West Orange. The distance is determined by our routing software. We do not accept mileage from any other mapping program. The student(s) must meet the age requirements of the West Orange School District and they must also be enrolled in Kindergarten through 12 in their non-public school.

We provide this in few different ways:

- We use district buses;
- We can use a private contractor or educational services commission; and
- We can join with another district's route.

If we cannot provide transportation using the options above, we will then use the Aid in Lieu of Transportation option. The payment amount for Aid in Lieu is established by the State of New Jersey Department of Education and is paid in two installments:

- The amount is \$1,165.00 per student per year and is split into two payments of \$582.50. (new amount set by State of New Jersey in July 2023);
- You will only receive Aid in Lieu if the student(s) are eligible for transportation and the district is unable to provide a route; and
- The payment of Aid in Lieu means that there is no transportation available for the student(s).

Please note: if you receive Aid in Lieu, then the student(s) will not be provided bussing.

All checks will be processed by the West Orange School District. We are here to help...do not hesitate to reach out to the West Orange Transportation office if you have any questions.