

# PCHS 2024-2025 School Bus Program

\*SAMPLE - will be updated to reflect new dates AND rates for 2024-25

Dear Current & Potential PCHS School Bus Riding Families,

The 2024-2025 PCHS School Bus Program Registration system, and the Financial Assistance Application (FAST Aid) system, for riding a PCHS School Bus next school year (starting August 2024), will be open as of Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. The Registration & Application systems (two different systems) will only be available and accepting entries until Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00am (7 in the Morning!). The Registration & Application systems are for all 2024-2025 students (new students and returning students).

The reason we are starting the process in early March is to align with the PCHS Admissions registration/enrollment and enable us to better prepare the number of buses and the routes/stops they will take for our PCHS students next year. We also want to provide the timeframe for all of next year's students to be able to have all the bus route, stop, cost and first/late month bus fee down-payments completed before the summer break.

The requests for Financial Assistance via FAST Aid will coincide with the Registration Process to enable better planning before next school year's budget is finalized. The Financial Assistance Application timeline will allow the process to be completed by early May. This way, everyone will be aware of the financial assistance they are eligible for well before the start of next year, and before the June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 7:00am First & Last Month Bus Fee down-payment deadline, and permit PCHS to have more definitive information on the student body's financial assistance needs for next year.

The Bus Registration and Financial Assistance Application (FAST Aid) are both due by Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at 7:00am. However, the First & Last Month's Bus Fees Down-Payments can be paid in full or in installments at any time from Registration through June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 7:00am. The schedule of the Registration & Application can be found on the PCHS Website here:

Menus: [www.palihigh.org](http://www.palihigh.org) => About Us => Transportation

Link: [go.palihigh.org/transportation](http://go.palihigh.org/transportation)

A completed Bus Registration consists of a properly filled out and submitted Online Registration AND the First & Last Month Bus Fees Down-Payment paid in full. Until the First & Last Month's Bus Fees/Down-Payments are paid in full, your student will only have a Prospective-Seat not a Finalized/Confirmed-Seat on a PCHS School Bus. Successfully completing your Bus Registration gives you an early choice of available Bus Routes and Stops. The overall schedule and time period for making your First & Last Month Bus Fees Down-Payment will also allow you to see what, if any, financial assistance you may receive before making your down-payment.

Although we work hard to bring you this School Bus Program at the best possible cost, significant inflation has impacted the cost of all busing programs. We have negotiated a contract with our bus company American Transportation Systems (ATS) that we believe is very marketplace competitive, though who requires us to peg annual cost increases to a LA Area Transportation Inflation Index, which has been running high like overall inflation. In attempting to keep cost increases in check, and trying to keep in mind the increases may be impacting your finances, we do our best to keep costs to be as low as we can get them and still be able to provide safe and reliable bus transportation for our students.

# PCHS 2023-2024 School Bus Program

Bus Fees for the 2024-2025 school year will be \$X,XXX/year, \$XXX/month if paying monthly (though all 10 Months still required to be paid), and this is a full 10-Month school year commitment. A 10-Month commitment means that you cannot get a refund for not riding the bus if it is past the 6<sup>th</sup> Day at 3:00pm after School Starts (8/23/2024 @ 3:00pm).

Successful PCHS School Bus Program registrants please remember that unless your student leaves PCHS as a student entirely, subject to the rules and regulations as outlined in our School Bus FAQs, the family is committing to pay for the PCHS School Bus for the entire school year – the entire \$2,850. Refunds will only be provided as outlined on PCHS's Transportation website. Any unpaid/past-due balances will be added to the student's PCHS Financial Account.

**\*Note to New/Incoming Students for 2024-25**: Once you apply for Admission to PCHS (not Bus Registration) and have that Application Approved by the PCHS Admissions Department, you then must create your Infinite Campus Portal/Account which allows you to get/see your PCHS Student Number. This Student Number is required to be able to Register your student for a PCHS School Bus.

Please spread the word to anyone planning to attend PCHS next year about the timing of the PCHS School Bus Program Registration and Financial Assistance Application systems being open/available. Also, please be sure to read all the information on PCHS's website regarding the PCHS Transportation Programs. Details can be found here: [go.palihigh.org/transportation](https://go.palihigh.org/transportation). Information on where to access the Registration & Application systems can be found on PCHS's website in the Transportation section.

After reading the Transportation Section of the website thoroughly, please direct any questions to [transportation@palihigh.org](mailto:transportation@palihigh.org), or call the Transportation Department at 310-230-6631.