Safety Precautions Being Taken on our Buses

In order to provide the safest possible environment for our students who utilize bus transportation, we have instituted some changes for the 2020-2021 school year. Through the pandemic, we are committed to maintaining a clean and sanitary environment for our students both in the classroom and on the bus. The following are the safety measures we have in place for students who ride the bus:

• **FACE MASKS**: In order to protect other students and their bus driver, students will be required to wear a face mask before entering the bus, and while riding the bus.

• **SEATING ON THE BUS**: Students riding the bus will need to sit alone in a seat, with the exception of siblings, who will need to share a seat.

• **BUS SANITIZATION**: Bus drivers will be sanitizing buses after each run has been completed.

• **HAND SANITIZER**: Hand sanitizer will be available in each bus.
Issues with Current Plan

- School buses have between 24-27 seats each, which means we have a greatly reduced pupil capacity with the one-student-per-seat rule.

- Under this plan, we had to add six runs in order to accommodate all of the students attending school in-person who need bus transportation.
What This Means

• The contractors do not have enough substitute drivers to cover all runs in the instance of absence and illness.

• We have moved several athletic events to times when we had transportation available.
Revision to Plan

• The only thing about our transportation plan that we are changing is that instead of permitting only one student per seat, we will allow up to two students per seat.

• This will eliminate the need for the additional six runs we added in August, and will therefore make more bus drivers available to substitute as needed and drive buses to/from athletic events.
On 21 September 2020, the school board approved this change:

• We will reassign students on the additional six bus runs to be removed.

• We will notify families whose bus schedules have been affected.

• We will notify ALL families of the change to the two-student-per-seat rule, via OneCall. **We will let them know that if they wish to have their child sit alone in a seat, they should contact Tina Hrinda** (thrinda@bloomsd.k12.pa.us or 570-784-6100, extension 6018), and we will make every effort to accommodate their request.

• All other parts of the plan will continue to operate as they have been.