

## **Busing distances, space available service changes begin in 2009-10**

Poudre School District Transportation wants parents and families to be aware of changes for the 2009-10 school year. Due to budget constraints, transportation costs and grade level changes, the following changes are being made and will impact students and families.

### **Transportation Eligibility Changes for PSD Students:**

Effective July 1, 2009, to align transportation services with grade level changes, PSD transportation policies will be revised to reflect 6<sup>th</sup> grade students moving to middle school and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students moving to high school. The transportation eligibility distances for each level (elementary, middle school, high school) will not change; the grades receiving transportation services will change:

- Elementary school students in kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade will receive transportation services to and from school if they live 1 mile or more from school, in the school attendance area.
- Middle school students in grades 6-8 will receive transportation services to and from school if they live 1½ miles or more from school, in the school attendance area.
- High school students in grades 9-12 will receive transportation services to and from school if they live 2 miles or more from school, in the school attendance area.

### **Space Available Busing Changes:**

Due to budget constraints and increasing transportation costs, PSD routes are being adjusted to create more efficiency within each route. This means next year more students will be transported on fewer buses and/or fewer routes, and PSD anticipates the following:

- Next year, PSD busses will be transporting more eligible students and therefore less “Space Available” busing may be available.
- Students attending a school outside of their neighborhood school (school choice) will only be transported on PSD busses if there is “Space Available.” The exception is for Poudre High School’s International Baccalaureate program, for which a fee-based pilot is planned.
- “Space Available” Bus Service forms will be accepted beginning August 1, 2009; parents will be notified in **October** whether or not a seat is available for their student on the bus. Often during the first months of school, bus routes need to be adjusted to accommodate eligible students and to create efficiencies throughout district bus routes.
- “Space Available” Bus Service forms for the 2009-10 school year will be available starting August 1, 2009, on the PSD Web site on the Transportation page, or may be obtained from your school or by calling 490-3155 to request a copy of the form.

The above changes will be in effect the first day of the 2009-10 school year. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the transportation department by email [transportation@psdschools.org](mailto:transportation@psdschools.org) or by phone 490-3155.