

July 23, 2026

Dear Students/Families of CMS Students,

Due to the change in location of the middle school facility, the district has decided to offer bus transportation to all Charleston Middle School students for the length of time classes are being held on EIU Campus. Transportation will return to normal once the students are back in the middle school facility. More details will be sent out soon in the Q & A document, but all buses will drop off and pick up at EIU on 7th Street heading south.

Please review the information below and select the scenario that best fits your situation and follow the listed instructions.

Students Normally Eligible for Bus Transportation

If you are a student/family that normally is eligible for transportation, all routes and pick up/drop off locations will remain the same as in prior years although times may differ.

- Option #1 - If you have already registered and selected school bus transportation (and you still want bus transportation to EIU), you do not need to do anything at this point. Once routes are completed, you will be able to access times, etc. on Skyward.
- Option #2 - If you have already registered and selected school bus transportation (but now no longer want bus transportation to EIU), please log back into Skyward and change your answer to NO for question “#9. Bus Service Needed?”.
- Option #3 - If you have not registered yet, please do so and select your transportation preference on questions 9 and 10.

Students Not Normally Eligible for Bus Transportation

If you are a student/family that lives in an area that is not normally eligible for transportation, new routes are being added. In addition, bus stops (where students are picked up and dropped off) will be spread out more than normal so students may be required to walk a short distance to get to the bus pick up area.

- Option #1 - If you have already registered and selected no for transportation but now want bus transportation to EIU, please log back into Skyward and change your answer to YES for “#9. Bus Service Needed?”. Then make sure you fill out question #10, which is the application for transportation. Once routes are completed, you will be able to access times, pick up location, etc. on Skyward.
- Option #2 - If you have already registered and selected that you do not want school bus transportation (and you still do not want transportation to EIU), you do not need to do anything in Skyward.
- Option #3 - If you have not registered yet, please do so and select your transportation preference.

Contact the bus garage with questions at (217) 345-3016 or visit the Transportation page for more information.