



**Cologne Academy
Bus Fee and Payment Schedule
2017-2018**

The cost for *out-of-district students/families* riding the Cologne Academy bus will be as follows:

Full School Year (9 months):

- \$350 for school year. (\$39 per month per family; \$0.99/ per ride)
- Families who qualify according to the federal poverty guidelines, may submit an application to have the fee waived. (This is only necessary for out-of-district residents.)
- There is no charge for students in the Norwood Young America (ISD #108) school district.

Second and Third Trimester only:

- Families who opt to enroll in the bus program after the end of the first trimester will be charged \$250.

The entire fee or waiver is due by August 22, 2017 unless an alternative payment plan has been authorized by the director. No student will be allowed to ride the bus without payment. Payments will be made at www.boonli.com

- All fees must be paid in full to receive a seat on the bus.
- Students are transported to one location only.
- There are no discounts for part time riders.

Refunds are only available within the first ten days of school. After that, no refunds will be made.

Fuel Escalation Surcharge: School reserves the right to increase fee should vendor impose a fuel surcharge due to the volatility of fuel costs.

Bus routes: Our goal is to keep all bus rides to 60 minutes or less, weather and traffic permitting. In order to do so, your route is likely to change from year to year so that all can have a reasonable ride time. As a public charter school, Cologne Academy has no official district boundaries. This means that all can attend Cologne Academy, no matter where you live, as long as Cologne Academy has a seat available. Since there are no district boundaries for our district (4188), we have families that reside in Glencoe to Eden Prairie, Mound to Shakopee, Lester Prairie to Belle Plaine and those whom reside closer to Cologne in Waconia, Norwood Young America, and other towns. Cologne Transportation Services (CTS) uses their software program to create routes (same computer program as large districts like 112 and 110). Cologne Academy transportation was initially created to operate as a hub system with convenient, centrally-located stops within communities. We do not guarantee a stop within walking distance of your home. Please consider that your child may ride the bus for an hour to and from school if you choose to use Cologne Academy transportation. You will need to accompany your child in grades K-5 to the bus stop and be present to pick your child up from the bus as well. Students in grade K-6 can expect to sit three to a seat. We plan for students in grade 7-8 sit two to a seat.

In addition, CTS will be enforcing the rule of transporting to one location only. Cologne Academy and CTS are not a private drive service. Like all bus runs, the bus routes are filled to bus capacity. CTS cannot amend early releases to friend's homes or Friday night birthday parties. The liability for ridership is too great. Please plan accordingly.

Bus riding conduct: As parent/guardian it is your responsibility to supervise the bus stop to ensure safety. Many times this means beyond the vantage point of your kitchen window. Students are expected to be visible at the designated bus stop and ready to board the bus 5 minutes prior to the established bus stop time.

All riders will be required, with their parents, to sign off on bus behavior expectations. This is the only part of the day that some students do not display the PRIDE Star behavioral expectations. Parental support is essential when corrective measures are put in place, as discipline matters need to be corrected immediately for the safety of all bus passengers. Unsafe, disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Drivers will enforce bus rules while encouraging positive behavior expectations. Bus conduct violations may be communicated via Bus Conduct Reports and/or email or phone communications from Cologne Academy or CTS. Bus conduct Reports may hold the following consequences:

First Report = Warning

Second Report = Up to 5 Days Loss of Riding Privilege

Third Report = Loss of Riding Privilege Remainder of the Year

While we understand this is an inconvenience to you, know that student bus suspensions/loss of riding privileges are due to behaviors that would not be tolerated in your own vehicle. Bus ridership can be suspended or revoked, without prior warnings, if a student's actions deem it necessary.