



News Release

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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City of Poughkeepsie School District Students to Again Ride Public Transit Free

*Successful School District/County Partnership
Continues for 2019-2020 School Year*

Poughkeepsie, NY... With the new school year starting this week, Poughkeepsie City School District Superintendent Dr. Eric Rosser and Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro are pleased to announce Poughkeepsie City School District (PCSD) middle and high school students will once again be able to use Dutchess County Public Transit buses at no charge to students for the 2019/2020 school year.

PCSD Superintendent Dr. Eric Rosser said, "We are very pleased to again partner with the County to have bus transportation available for our middle and high school students. This is a tremendous benefit to our district's families and we encourage students to take advantage of the service, both for school and for extracurricular activities."

The successful partnership between Dutchess County Public Transit (DCPT) and the school district, enabling students to ride Dutchess County Public Transit buses, began last year for the 2018/19 school year to encourage timely arrival and attendance for students. DCPT's routes M and P, which serve the high school and middle school, were modified to align with each school's bell schedule. Additionally, extra buses operate on the routes in the morning and afternoon to ensure students are transported in a timely manner.

Students can also utilize DCPT buses to get to after-school activities including clubs and sports events or employment at no cost for any ride that originates in the City of Poughkeepsie. According to the National Education Association, there is tremendous benefit to students taking part in extracurricular activities including improved school attendance, academic success, aspirations for continuing education past high school and a sense of community.

PSCD Board President Dr. Felicia Watson, “This service was very well-received by students and families last year and we are happy to be again partnering with Dutchess County to ensure our students can get to and from school safely and efficiently.”

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said, “As the new school year gets underway, we are happy to be again working with the Poughkeepsie City School District providing important connections to make it a great year for students.”

City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Rob Rolison added, “We are grateful this important relationship between Dutchess County Public Transit and the school district is continuing. It is a wonderful benefit for City of Poughkeepsie families.”

The 2019-2020 school year agreement will not exceed \$54,000 as per the resolution unanimously adopted by the PCSD School Board last week. There was no cost increase from the prior year for the school district.

For more information about Dutchess County Public Transit, including routes M and P, visit www.dutchessny.gov/publictransit