

May 2011 / אייר תשע"א

Dear Parents,

We hope that you feel this has been another successful year of busing for the schoolchildren of Chicago and the outlying areas. Any success is truly a team effort, as it involves cooperation between the schools, parents and the Agudath Israel Busing Committee. At this time, we are opening registration for the 2011/2012 school year.

In what has seemingly become a yearly state budget crisis, Agudath Israel has not yet been approved for our yearly transportation funding. Rabbi Kalish, Senator Silverstein and Representative Lang are working tirelessly to ensure uninterrupted service for the coming year. However, until the State budget process is complete, we cannot know the level of transportation funding that will be available--if, at all. We will pass along to you any information as we receive it. We are asking that you please DO NOT call our office for an update. You will be informed by the schools upon the final resolution of the state budget. Also, do not call the offices of Senator Silverstein or Representative Lang as it could be detrimental to our cause. They know the situation and are working closely with Rabbi Kalish.

Enclosed you will find a registration form. Forms are due by June 17<sup>th</sup> and should be returned to the Agudah office, 3542 W. Peterson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60659. All forms should be sent with FULL payment or they will not be considered. Payment can be made by check or credit card. In the event that we do not receive a grant, all forms will be shredded and refunds will be sent out. Any registration form received after June 18 will incur an additional fee as noted on the registration form. No form will be accepted after July 15<sup>th</sup>.

All routes are made up by the school and therefore all "stop" related questions, comments and suggestions should be forwarded there. The schools put much time, effort, and thought into arranging the route.

As always, the Agudah will try its best to accommodate everyone regardless of neighborhood. Should it be determined that we will not be able to provide busing in a certain neighborhood, due to the amount of children utilizing the service, we will notify you and issue a full refund prior to the beginning of the school year.

Fundamental rules and regulations for riding the buses are enclosed. Misconduct and any kind of misbehavior will not be tolerated. Registration will only be considered provided that it is signed by a parent indicating that the bus rules and conduct have been reviewed with each child registering, and each child has committed to obey all the rules and understands that violation of any of the rules will result in suspension of bus riding privileges. Additionally, parents will be held responsible for any damages sustained by the buses on account of their children.

If a parent feels the bus service is not working out for their child they should please notify both the Agudah and their school. Refunds will only be given up until Sukkos.

Looking forward to another successful year of busing,



Rabbi Yitzchok Ehrman  
 Comptroller

### School Schedule

| School                 | Minyan | AM | PM |                          | Minyan | AM | PM |
|------------------------|--------|----|----|--------------------------|--------|----|----|
| Arie Crown*            | ✓      |    | ✓  | Hillel Torah*            | ✓      |    | ✓  |
| Akiba Schechter        | N/A    | ✓  | ✓  | Joan Dachs Bais Yaakov** | N/A    |    | ✓  |
| Cheder Lubavitch Boys  | ✓      |    | ✓  | Yeshivas Tiferes Tzvi    | ✓      | ✓  | ✓  |
| Cheder Lubavitch Girls | N/A    |    | ✓  | Veitzener Cheder         | ✓      | ✓  | ✓  |
| Gesher Hatorah         | N/A    | ✓  |    |                          |        |    |    |

\*Buffalo Grove and Highland Park have roundtrip service

\*\*Monday through Thursday Only

## Agudath Israel's Rules and Regulations

### For Students Riding School Buses

These rules and regulations were prepared by Agudath Israel along with your child's/children's school and will apply to all schools being transported by Agudath Israel.

1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and students. The students must obey the driver promptly and willingly.
2. Students shall ride their regularly assigned bus at all times, unless permission has been granted by the school authorities. School authorities should verify with Agudath Israel and the bus driver, availability of extra seating space and should not allow non-regular riders if it will cause standees on the bus.
3. Unless by permission of school authorities, no student shall be permitted to leave the bus except at his or her regular stop.
4. Each student may be assigned a seat in which he will be seated at all times unless permission to change is given by the school principal and/or bus monitor.
5. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom conduct must be obeyed. Classroom conduct means students will:  
A. Keep bus clean, B. Refrain from throwing objects, C. Sit properly in seat, D. Be courteous to driver and students.
6. Students are to assist in keeping the bus clean by keeping their waste paper off the floor. Students must also refrain from throwing refuse out of the windows. To help keep the bus clean, eating is not allowed.
7. No student shall open a window on the school bus without first getting permission from the school bus driver.
8. No student shall at any time extend his/her head, hands, or arms out of the windows, whether school bus in motion or standing still.
9. Students must see that they have nothing in their possession that may cause injury to another, such as breakable containers.
10. Each student must see that his books and personal belongings are kept out of the aisle. Special permission must be granted by school authorities to transport any large items.
11. Students are expected to be courteous to the driver and monitors. Raising one's voice, speaking in a discourteous and/or derogatory manner, or arguing when an instruction is given will not be permitted. At no time are students to instruct the driver where to go or where to stop unless the driver specifically requests their assistance.
12. No student shall sit in the driver's seat, nor shall any student be to the immediate left or right of the driver.
13. Students are to remain seated while the bus in motion and are not to get on or off the bus until the bus has come to a full stop.
14. Students must leave the bus in an orderly manner. They must not cross any roadway until given consent by the school bus driver. When boarding or leaving the bus, the students should be in view of the driver at all times.
15. Students must not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus. Students should leave home early enough to arrive at the bus stop before the bus is due. Students are not to run errands between the bus stop and their home.
16. Self-discipline should be exercised by students at the bus loading area. Students should refrain from pushing and shoving other students.
17. Bus companies will be reimbursed for damage to school buses by students.
18. Students shall respect the rights and safety of others on the bus.
19. Absolutely no eating on the bus.
20. In case of student being out of control, the driver will return the student back to the school.
21. Parents may not discuss issues of the bus with the driver – any issues should be directed to the school.
22. Parents may not ask the driver to change or make any additional stops on the route.
19. Students misconduct on a bus will be sufficient reason to discontinue providing bus transportation to those students involved.
20. When a teacher or monitor is assigned to accompany students on a bus, such person shall be primarily responsible for the behavior of the students in their charge. However, the bus driver shall have final authority and responsibility.

**NOTE: Violation of any of the above rules of school bus discipline of Agudath Israel Policy may result in a suspension of a student's bus riding privileges. Riding on a school bus is a privilege, not a right.**

By allowing my child to ride on the bus, I agree with the rules and regulations stated above, and I have reviewed them with my child/children to assure that they will abide by them.