



DAVE YOST

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Administration
Office 614-728-5458
Fax 614-466-5087

September 3, 2024

Dr. Angela Chapman: superintendent@columbus.k12.oh.us

Re: Student Transportation

Dear Dr. Chapman:

My office has learned that the Columbus City School District has refused to provide transportation to hundreds or thousands of students who live in the District and whose families chose to attend community schools or private schools, despite the District's clear legal obligation to transport most if not all these students. *See* O.R.C. 3327.01; 3327.02.

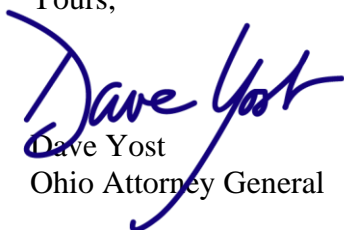
Further, it appears that the District is refusing to provide students transportation to their schools of choice even while their families are validly challenging the Districts' refusal of transportation. Ohio law is clear: if families challenges the District's decision not to provide transportation, the District must transport the students to their schools of choice while those challenges are ongoing.

For many of the affected students, their families received no notice of the District's refusal of transportation until days before the start of the school year. Ohio law requires notice 30 days before the start of the school year for most students.

It appears that the District has chosen to ignore its legal obligations to transport thousands of students, perhaps calculating that the District is better off paying future non-compliance fines than meeting its current legal obligations.

This apparent new strategy of non-compliance has had an immediate and ongoing impact on thousands of families. The District must cease and desist this apparent new strategy. Otherwise, my office will seek relief in Court.

Yours,



Dave Yost
Ohio Attorney General

cc: Christina Vera: cvera@columbus.k12.oh.us