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School Transportation Update

May 4, 2020

1. Next transportation drop-in Zoom conference
2. HB 197 update
3. Use of disinfectant on school buses
4. Hand sanitizer on school buses

Say thank you to your school bus drivers today! It is Ohio's school bus driver appreciation day.

1) Next transportation drop-in Zoom conference – Wednesday, April 13.

Our next OSBA school transportation drop-in conference will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at 10:00. Transportation administrators that wish to participate should send a request to MTA@ohioschoolboards.org. You will receive a response email with the access information.

2) HB 197 update and clarification

In the last drop-in conference, the licensure and certificate deadline extensions were reviewed. Under HB 197, the extensions are good for 90 days after the emergency or December 1, whichever comes sooner. The emergency order closing schools expires at 11:59 PM, June 30.

3) Use of disinfectant on school buses

The Ohio State Highway Patrol has issued a directive that allows non-aerosol disinfectant to be carried on school buses. The type of disinfectant must be authorized by the school's administration, while taking into consideration any recommendations provided by the Ohio Department of Health. Disinfectant must be stored in a closed compartment in the driver's area and out of the reach of student passengers while students are on board the vehicle. This variance will remain in effect until July 1, 2020. For questions on this, please contact the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

4) Hand sanitizer on school buses

Regulations governing personal use hand sanitizer have been defined in the 2020 School Bus Inspection Manual as: Personal use hand sanitizer (size 12 oz or less) stored securely. For questions on this, please contact the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Please note that nothing should be added in the stairwell of a school bus that provides a catchpoint or trip hazard.

Ohio School Boards Association
8050 N High St, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43235

<http://www.ohioschoolboards.org>

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