

**PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
760 Magnolia Avenue
Piedmont, California 94611**

From the Office of the Superintendent

Press Release

- For Immediate Release -

May 19, 2009

**June 4 Community Meeting to
Review Proposed Bus Routes and Bus Stops**

On Thursday, June 4, the Piedmont Unified School District will hold a community meeting to present proposed plans for school bus transportation for the 2009-10 school year, including proposed bus routes and bus stops. The District invites all members of the Piedmont community, regardless of whether they have children in the Piedmont schools, to learn about and comment on the proposed routes and stops. The District will make every effort to address and accommodate any concerns that may be raised about the proposed plans. The community meeting will be held at the Piedmont Middle School multipurpose room, 740 Magnolia Avenue, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

As you may know, in January 2009 the Board of Education decided to lease a vacant school in Emeryville for the temporary relocation of elementary school students during the seismic renovation of their schools. Havens students will be relocated to the Emeryville site, which is approximately five miles from Piedmont, during the 2009-10 school year. The District will need to provide transportation to and from the Emeryville site for approximately 378 Havens students starting in August 2009. Wildwood students will be relocated to the Emeryville site during 2010-11 and Beach students will be relocated to the Emeryville site during 2011-12.

The Lamorinda School Bus Program (LSBP), which has been managing school bus transportation for school districts in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda for fourteen years, will manage Piedmont's school bus transportation. *First Student*, a well-respected, national bus company with a proven safety record, will provide the transportation services.

Both the LSBP and *First Student* are experts in school transportation planning. They have studied the Havens attendance area and proposed four bus routes, each with roughly ten bus stops that would be scheduled one or two minutes apart. This would make it possible for most students to walk to and from their bus stop.

When determining bus routes and bus stops, safety is the overriding factor. In addition to safety, the LSBP and *First Student* considered traffic congestion and whether the

stops would be distributed as evenly as possible through the attendance area. Representatives of the LSBP and *First Student* will be available at the June 4 community meeting to answer questions and receive public input on the proposed transportation plans.

The District, the LSBP and *First Student* will make every effort to consider the comments and suggestions received at the June 4th community meeting when refining and finalizing the transportation plans.