

December 3, 2008

Dear School Administrator:

As you may know, beginning January 4, 2009, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) will no longer issue or accept paper transfers for travel in the Metro system.

As of that date, customers will need a SmarTrip® card to make free bus-to-bus transfers or to transfer from Metrorail to Metrobus or Metrobus to Metrorail for a discounted fare. In addition, the time period during which transfers are valid will increase, from two to three hours.

The Metro Board authorized this change to speed boardings, to cut operating costs, and to help guard against abuse of paper transfers. The decision also reaffirms Metro's continuing effort to encourage wider use of the SmarTrip® card as the region's transit fare medium.

This policy change means that after January 4, students who travel to school by bus and previously used school tokens plus paper transfers will be unable to use paper transfers to change buses. In the future, these students will have to use two tokens (one for each bus) or use a special-issue Student SmarTrip® card.

The Student SmarTrip® card, which will be made available only during the current school year to students who travel only by bus, will cost \$6.25 — the current price of a pack of 10 school tokens. Each student would be allowed only one registered Student SmarTrip® card, which will allow the student to board one bus and transfer to a second (or even a third) bus within a three-hour transfer period at no additional cost. The card is reloadable; that is, fare value can be continually added to the card.

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at any WMATA fare vendor or bus farebox. Student SmarTrip® cards will be sold at all METRO sales facilities including bus garages, Metro Center, Anacostia Station and the Jackson Graham Building. We will work with the District government to identify public school locations where these cards may also be sold.

The elimination of paper transfers will not affect students who use the SmartStudent pass, which allows unlimited rail and bus trips (including transfers) for a month, nor will it affect students who travel by Metrorail only with a student farecard.

We are committed to helping you to understand Metro's new policy and to address any issues that arise as a result. To that end, feel free to contact Mr. Art Lawson, at 202-962-1050 or alawson@wmata.com if you have additional questions or concerns.

We look forward to continuing to help the District of Columbia's students travel smoothly to and from school, and we appreciate your continuing support of Metro.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sara Procacci Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sara" being the most prominent.

Sara Procacci Wilson
Assistant General Manager
Department of Corporate Strategy and Communications

Enclosures