



MEMORANDUM

TO: Randolph County Board of Education
Dr. Stephen Gainey, Superintendent

FROM: Marty A. Trotter

DATE: October 19, 2015

RE: Change in elementary school standards regarding bus drop-off procedures

Currently the Randolph County School System has followed a no drop-off procedure for bus riders in grades K-5 unless the driver can verify a parent is at home. If a bus comes to a stop and the driver can not verify a parent is home the student is returned to school at the end of the bus route. The driver radios to the school letting school personnel know to make contact with parents to advise them of their child's whereabouts.

The school system has been receiving more and more calls each year from parents of older elementary students asking the school system to reconsider its drop-off procedure.

The Department of Social Services uses the following "Community Standards" when determining proper supervision of children:

- Children 6-8 years of age are not to be left alone for more than a few minutes
- Children 9-10 years of age are not to be left alone for more than two hours
- Children 11-12 years of age are not to be left alone for more than four hours

** The child being left alone must be free from medical, mental, emotional problems and delinquent behaviors**

Most school systems in our surrounding area use a no drop-off procedure for bus riders in grades K-3 and allow students in grades 4-5 to be dropped off regardless if a parent is home or not. The Randolph County School System is interested in adopting a similar procedure for our bus riders with parental consent.