



Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation

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MAPT Members and Transportation Professionals,

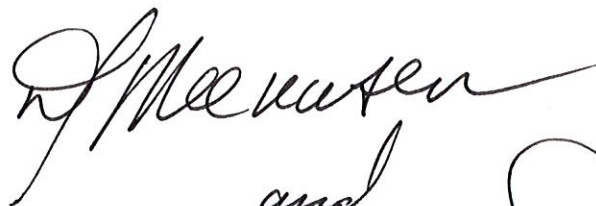

When Governor Whitmer declared a state of emergency (Exec. Order 2020-5), she started actions at the state and local government levels to deal with the Coronavirus health emergency. One of those actions was to close all public and private schools from March 16 to April 5, 2020. A state of emergency allows county and city emergency preparedness operations to use local and regional resources to help protect the health, safety, and welfare of their populations.

An option open to all schools is **using school buses to deliver meals**, e.g. breakfast and lunch, **and supplies** to students and families. This delivery method will reduce traffic congestion, with its potential for incidents, and crowds of people at food distribution locations.

Using school buses to deliver meals and supplies is different from transporting children to and from school. School bus drivers should **not use overhead alternating red flashing lights** when stopping to deliver emergency supplies. Drivers should **activate hazard warning lights prior to and during** these stops. A school bus should be pulled to the **far right of or off the roadway as practicable** when stopping to deliver supplies. Routes should be modified or redesigned to use only **right-hand delivery stops**.

A declaration of emergency at the state and or local level includes funding for entities directly supplying resources, e.g. delivering meals and supplies, to aid local populations. School superintendents should contact their local city or county emergency preparedness directors to determine what, if any, funding is available for expenses related to the transportation of meals and supplies resulting from the Governor's emergency declaration, (Exec. Order 2020-5).

David Meeuwsen
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and




Executive Director