



Charter School
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15 April 2019

Dear Charter School Authority Families,

Sadly, it has been a few weeks since the tragic death of Layla Aikens, the 8-year-old student who was a hit and run victim as she waited at her school bus stop.

Although the circumstances of her death are still under investigation, in the meanwhile, it is important for you to know our Charter School Authority bus stops meet the statutory requirements as determined by the Florida Department of Education.

Furthermore, we are conducting a study of bus stop area conditions, and trying to come up with a viable safety plan. However, this process will take a bit of time especially when we must take many elements into consideration, as well as not disrupt student services.

It may surprise you to realize what happens on a daily basis in our school transportation system. We have 15 buses crisscrossing 62 different routes. There are more than 1690 students picked up at 451 bus stops, almost 902 times a day. Fortunately, most of our bus ridership is picked up at depot points where students remain in parent vehicles until the bus arrives. And miraculously, in 14 years of operation we have not had any severe bus accidents, student injuries, or worse, due to a transportation issue we could have prevented.

Since Layla's devastating accident our administration, together with Lee County School District officials, and our City of Cape Coral partners, have been assessing the safety of our school bus stop environments. As plans progress I will be sure to share this information with you. Until then, thank you for your patience as we continue to evaluate our bus stop waiting areas in an effort to make your student's ride to and from school a safe and successful journey.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacquelin Collins".

Jacquelin Collins
Superintendent

www.CapeCharterSchools.org

