

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Q- What is the Parent Option form?**

**A-** The parent option form is an evaluation of skills checklist which meets NY States standards and allows parents to prepare and meet the criteria so their child can satisfy the in-vehicle portion of driver education.

### **Q - When will the Parent Option form be available?**

**A –** We have a form in place from the previous semester that we are modifying to reflect the Spring 2021 guidelines. There will be a link on our website that will read “Spring 2021 Parent Option form” after Spring lecture classes have begun.

### **Q – Who is the Parent Option form for?**

**A –** The parent option for in-vehicle instruction is only for students who are enrolled in our Spring 2021 program.

### **Q – What is on the Parent Option form and when is it due back?**

**A –** You will find clear and informative directions, requests for pictures of certain documents, and a comprehensive checklist of items and skills you must satisfy and submit in order to satisfy the in-vehicle portion of driver ed. The documents are due back sooner, but you will have until early June to instruct your child and complete the checklist portion.

### **Q – Are we only paying for the lecture portion of Driver ed?**

**A –** Yes, you will be asked to pay \$247.50 on your My Schools Bucks account when you submit your application.

### **Q – What happens if road classes resume?**

**A-** If road classes resume, you will have an option of sticking with the parent option or joining road classes with our driver ed department. If you join driver ed, a prorated price will be posted depending on how many hours of instruction remain.

**Q – Suppose I get accepted and decide to withdraw from the program?**

A - If you are withdrawing from the program at any time you must request a refund by emailing: [PVitucci@Levittownschoools.com](mailto:PVitucci@Levittownschoools.com)

**Q – How will lecture classes continue going forward?**

A – Lecture classes will meet weekly. Class days and times will be discussed at the meetings and posted on the application. We will try to offer a convenient mix of in-person, hybrid, and remote classes.

**Q – What is the advantage of taking Driver ed even though there are no road classes?**

A – By taking driver ed, your child will receive the MV-285, which is the certificate of completion. (also known as the bluecard). Receiving a bluecard, in addition to passing the road test **is the only way** your child will attain senior driving privileges at age 17. (not 16) Taking the 5-hour course will only allow your child to take the road test and receive a junior license if they pass the road test; a junior license has the same restrictions as a permit, with one exception—driving alone *only* from home to work and work to home. Driving to school is not allowed, unless it is a college class. The junior license will not become a senior license until your child turns 18 without a bluecard. Another advantage of taking driver ed is that the certificate of completion includes a part that is submitted to your insurance carrier that allows for a driver discount up to age 21. Also, if road classes start again, by being enrolled you will have the option of continuing to train with a district certified driver ed teacher.

**Q – When will the Spring 2021 Driver ed session end and when will my child receive the bluecard?**

A- Driver ed lecture classes will not end until mid-June. Bluecards WILL NOT be issued until lectures classes are completed regardless of when you may finish the in-vehicle requirements with your child.

**Q – Can you give advice on how to complete the in-vehicle portion with my child?**

**A –** Patience! Our in-district Driver ed teachers, Mr. Vitucci- 30 years, Mr. Caslte- 25 years, Mr. Miller- 25 years, Mr. Ryan 15 years have probably taught close to 10,000 Levittown students over the years, and we often hear the same thing: “I can’t drive with my parents!” Remember, your child may not react the way you are expecting them to react. The best thing to do is remain calm and explain what action your child should have taken. The Parent Option checklist has many items and skills to practice that reflects the same evaluation of the road test. You may also want to look into private driving lesson. Also, plenty of practice is very good, but “practice” is not the same as experience. Experience is letting your child drive you to real destinations when there are time constraints. Good Luck!

**Q – Suppose my child wants to take his/her road test soon?**

**A –** You may want to sign up your child for the 5-hour class. The 5-hour certificate (MV-278) will allow your child to take the road test, but remember, passing the road test without the bluecard is only a junior license even if your child is 17. Levittown does not offer the 5- hour class.

**Q - What is the MV-262?**

**A –** The MV-262 is a form that can be Googled and printed out. You must present this form at the road test site. The top portion must be filled out and signed by a parent. This form attests that your child has satisfied 50 hours of behind the wheel, including 15 hours of night driving. (sunset and beyond) The six hours behind the wheel required for the in-vehicle Parent Option, will count toward the 50.

**Q – Will Driver ed road classes return to the school?**

**A –** We don’t know. The Governor’s office has only released one driver ed related statement since March 2020. The New York State Department of Education has released only two such guidelines since March. If the Governor’s office allows more than two people in the car, and/or, if the NYSED allows driving with one student in the car, we can resume with driver ed road classes, but will continue to offer the parent option as well. Levittown Public Schools will move forward, and all students will ultimately attain their bluecard. Our teachers take

pleasure and great pride in teaching your child how to drive, we have been doing this a very long time, and we hope to be back in the car soon!