

## High School Transportation Overview

Sherman students of high school age enjoy a benefit relatively unique among Connecticut school Districts. Our students in grades 9 through 12 are able to choose from among five different high school options.

New Milford High School is the designated high school for Sherman students, meaning that the Sherman Board of Education has a longstanding contract with New Milford to provide a high school education to our students. However, our Board of Education provides other voluntary options for students who elect to make such a choice. Our students may attend (if accepted) two area comprehensive high schools, New Fairfield High School, and Shepaug Valley Regional High School. In addition, Sherman students with highly specialized interests may attend (if accepted) two high schools offering vocational education. These include Shepaug's Agriscience School for students interested in a wide array of agricultural-related careers, and Henry Abbott Technical High School (Danbury) for those interested in a vocational education.

All of these high school options represent wonderful opportunities as our students seek to match themselves with the option best for them; however, such a wide range of options creates transportation challenges for our students and parents. High school students who live in Sherman and choose to ride the transportation provided must be up early in the morning in order to arrive at school on time. Please note that students who choose to participate in extracurricular activities are responsible for their own transportation to and from those events if none is provided.

### Details of the Basic Transportation System

#### **New Milford High School**

As Sherman's "designated" high school, the agreement provides for buses from All-Star Transportation to travel around the town of Sherman and to make numerous pick-ups at identified bus stops. Specific information about these stops is published on The Sherman School website and can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

- *Outbound:* Buses arrive at The Sherman School at around 6:35 AM and depart at approximately 6:40 AM, arriving at NMHS around 7:10 AM.
  
- *Inbound:* Buses depart NMHS at approximately 2:25 PM for the return trip to Sherman. Students are dropped off at their bus stops.

#### **New Fairfield High School and Henry Abbott Tech**

As "choice" high schools, the logistics provide for transportation accommodations to these schools via a combination of First Student (pick-up and drop-off points are limited for these runs) and All-Star Transportation. First Student provides transportation for NFHS and HAT students in the morning, but only for NFHS in the afternoon; All-Star provides transportation for

the afternoon run for HAT students.

- *Outbound:* There is only one official pick-up site, which is The Sherman School at approximately 6:35 AM. To arrive at The Sherman School by 6:35, students have two options: they can board a NMHS bus which will act as a shuttle to The Sherman School, or parents need to drop students off at The Sherman School. First Student also provides one single courtesy pick up stop along Route 39 on the way to NFHS/HAT. For this school year, the courtesy pick-up site is at Leach Hollow Road. This bus arrives at NFHS at approximately 7:10 AM and HAT around 7:20 AM.

- *Inbound:* The NFHS bus, provided by First Student, departs around 2:05 PM for the return trip to Sherman. NFHS students have the option to transfer to the Sherman buses to be returned to their bus stops. For HAT, there is one bus dedicated to Sherman students which departs at approximately 2:10 PM, travels through New Milford, and drops students back to their bus stops. All-Star provides this transportation service.

### **Shepaug Valley High School**

As a “choice” high school, the logistics provide for transportation accommodations to and from Shepaug via All-Star Transportation.

- *Outbound:* A dedicated Shepaug bus picks students up at The Sherman School at around 6:30 AM and departs for a ride directly to Shepaug at approximately 6:50 AM, with an arrival time of around 7:35 AM. When New Milford is in session, All-Star runs shuttles picking up Shepaug students and bringing them to The Sherman School to transfer onto the outbound bus to Shepaug.

- *Inbound:* The Sherman bus departs Shepaug around 2:20 PM for a return trip to The Sherman School. Students have the option to transfer to the Sherman buses to be dropped off at their bus stops.

### **Details for Variations Due to Weather Issues**

#### **Sherman is delayed/closed/dismissed early:**

When road conditions are such that school in Sherman is delayed, closed or dismissed early, all transportation is correspondingly delayed, closed, or started early. If The Sherman School is closed for weather-related reasons, while any of our corresponding high schools are open, no transportation will be provided since it has been determined that Sherman road conditions are unsafe to travel.

In this case, if a student is late or absent due to lack of busing, any tardy or absence will be excused. If the reason for the Sherman closure is calendar related, (e.g. Yom Kippur), bus transportation will still be available. In the case of a 12:00 PM early dismissal from NMHS or an 11:45 AM early dismissal from Shepaug, all high school students would be brought to The

Sherman School where they would ride home with Sherman students at our early dismissal time of 12:30 PM. Please be aware if Sherman is not dismissing early, these students will need to find their own transportation home from The Sherman School.

**Sherman is open/dismissed early and other schools are delayed/dismissed early:**

In the case of late openings and early dismissals for any of the corresponding high schools when Sherman is operating normally or dismissing early, the following guidelines apply:

**New Milford High School**

When inclement weather results in a 2-hour delay or a 3-hour delay, pick-up at The Sherman School is at 8:35 AM or 9:35 AM, respectively. Early dismissals in New Milford take place at 12:00 PM, and accelerated early dismissals take place at 11:00 AM. In the case of an accelerated early dismissal, students will be dropped off at their regular bus stops. All-Star provides transportation for NMHS in both the morning and afternoon.

**New Fairfield High School**

Delays due to weather are either a 2-hour delay or a 3-hour delay, so the pick-up at Sherman School is 8:35 or 9:35, respectively. If NFHS has an early dismissal, it normally occurs at 10:50 AM, in which case students will be dropped off at either Leach Hollow Road or The Sherman School. First Student provides transportation for NFHS in both the morning and afternoon.

**Henry Abbott Tech**

Morning 2-hour delays due to weather follow the NFHS timetable (some exceptions may apply), departing The Sherman School at 8:35 AM; however, the status of HAT is based on Danbury's schedule, so be sure to check the list of delays and closings for Danbury. Early dismissals take place at 11:33 AM and accelerated early dismissals take place at 10:30 AM. Transportation home is provided by All-Star, and students will be dropped off at their regular bus stops.

**Shepaug Valley High School**

While the status of Shepaug is based off of Region 12 (be sure to check their list of delays and closings), the Shepaug-dedicated bus from Sherman is dependent on the status of roads in town; therefore, morning delays due to weather will directly follow The Sherman School timetable for delayed openings.

For a 2-hour delay, the All-Star bus departs The Sherman School at around 8:20 AM and around 9:20 AM for a 3-hour delay. This means if Shepaug is running a 2-hour delay and Sherman a 3-hour delay, Shepaug students will arrive an hour late. Again, students arriving late will not be penalized under these circumstances.

Early dismissals based on weather normally occur at 11:15 AM at Shepaug. Those students are brought back to Sherman and will ride the bus home with Sherman students at 12:30 PM, assuming Sherman is also dismissing early. In the event Sherman is not dismissing early, Shepaug students will need their own transportation home from The Sherman School.

Please be aware when New Milford is not in session (be sure to check their list of delays and closings), no shuttles will run in the morning picking up Shepaug students to bring them to The Sherman School. In this instance, Shepaug students will need a ride to The Sherman School to catch the outbound bus.

**Bus Contact Information**

*All-Star Transportation:* (860) 350-2880

- Serving Sherman, NMHS, Shepaug, and HAT (PM only) students

*First Student:* (203) 746-8883

- Serving NFHS and HAT (AM only) students