



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Votran Shuttling DeLand Middle School Students
So They Can Avoid Walking Through Floodwater**

VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA – Volusia County, in coordination with Volusia County Schools and the City of DeLand, is taking proactive steps to ensure the safe transport of students who walk to DeLand Middle School as standing water potentially contaminated with sewage, fertilizers, and other hazardous materials that pose health risks remains in paths students often utilize.

To prevent exposure to these contaminants, DeLand Middle School students who normally walk to school should meet no later than 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 15, and Wednesday, Oct. 16, at the Sanborn Center, 815 S. Alabama Ave., DeLand. From the Sanborn Center, Votran buses will transport the students to and from the school. This temporary shuttle service provides a safe alternative to walking through floodwaters, protecting students from potential injuries and health hazards.

A representative from Volusia County Schools will be present on each Votran bus trip to assist with student needs, and officers from the City of DeLand Police Department will be in the area to help direct traffic. Volusia County Schools is communicating this emergency transport plan to parents and guardians through its established channels.

The situation is under continuous review, and if floodwaters do not recede sufficiently by Thursday, Oct. 17, the community will be notified of the continued need for this arrangement. Depending on the number of students requiring transportation assistance, Votran may make multiple rounds. Additionally, heavy traffic in the area could result in potential delays of transport.

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