



Student Transportation Services of York Region
320 Bloomington Road West
Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1
905-713-2535
FAX: 905-713-2533
Web site: www.schoolbuscity.com

MEMO TO: Principals, Vice-Principals and Secretaries

FROM: Joe Guchardi, Manager, STS

DATE: June 2014

SUBJECT: September Transportation Information

This memo provides a summary of communication tools available to parents, to help ensure a successful start to the next school year.

Specifically this memorandum addresses:

- The Student Transportation Services (STS) website
- Access to transportation eligibility and route information
- Notices to share with Parents/Students:
 - JK – Grade 1 Tips for Parents/Guardians
 - September School Bus Transportation Notice

Student Transportation Services Website

The STS website, www.schoolbuscity.com, is a valuable tool for schools and parents and contains important transportation information including but not limited to:

- Bus stop location, route information and service times for all schools
- Daily late bus listings
- First time rider safety events
- Answers to frequently asked questions
- STS information brochure
- Policies and procedures

Please visit the website, and refer parents to the site for answers to transportation questions. If you have any questions regarding the website please contact your school's Transportation Planner.



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Access to Transportation Eligibility and Route Information for students in Regular, Gifted and French Immersion Programs

- Transportation eligibility can be determined by referring to the *Bus Stop Information* tab on www.schoolbuscity.com.
- This tool enables parents/guardians to enter their house number, street address and select their child's school from a drop-down box to determine if they are eligible for transportation.
- Families whose address is eligible for transportation will receive the bus stop location closest to their home, along with applicable service times. Please note staff work throughout the summer to create bus routes for September that reflect new student enrolment. This year parents are able to access this revised route information as of August 18.
- Non-eligible families will be informed of their status.
- If a child is registered at school and is eligible for transportation, no additional registration is required to ride the school bus.

Transportation Information for Special Needs Students

- Per past practice, STS will continue to share bus route and rider information for students with Special Needs with schools via, www.schoolbuscity.com/mapnetweb.
- Schools are asked to print bus route and rider information from MapNet Web and share it with parents prior to the first day of school.



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Helpful Student Transportation Tips for Parents/Guardians

Please consider the following helpful tips and suggestions when preparing for your child to ride the bus to and from school:

- Often parents want to drive children to school on the first day. STS recommends that if you drive your children to school the first day, you also pick them up from school.
- Communicate any changes to daycare locations to your child's school prior to the start of the school year to ensure your child is placed on the correct bus
- JK, SK and Grade 1 students must be met at the bus stop by a parent/guardian.
- Keep current phone numbers records and emergency contact details with the school office.
- Record the bus company and route # for your child and keep in a safe and accessible place.
- Have an alternative arrangement for your child should unexpected circumstances such as traffic delay or any other emergency occurs.

Student Transportation Services of York Region would like to thank you for your cooperation as we continually focus on providing safe, efficient transportation for students.



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SEPTEMBER SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION NOTICE

Each summer, Student Transportation Services of York Region (STSYR) makes adjustments to bus route schedules to accommodate new students and new school openings. As a result, some students may experience changes in their bus schedule or route number. Please confirm bus stop service for September by checking www.schoolbuscity.com as of August 18. If you are unable to find the information you require, please contact your school.

During the first two weeks of school, students should arrive at their bus stop *ten minutes early*. After this, students are asked to arrive 5 minutes early as each bus route develops its regular routine and service times

Transportation Eligibility

In accordance with Board policies, transportation is provided for students who live within their designated Home School attendance area and outside their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone. Transportation eligibility changes throughout a student's school career. **Please note students currently in Grade 3 and Grade 8 who use school bus service may see a change in their eligibility as they transition to Grade 4 and Grade 9.**

Eligibility JK- Grade 8

- All YRDSB students in JK - Grade 3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are **not eligible** for transportation.
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4 - 8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are **not eligible** for transportation.

Eligibility Grade 9-12

- All YRDSB students in Grades 9 - 12 who live within a transit served area are **not eligible** for transportation.

Parents of students entering Grade 4 and Grade 9 may confirm their transportation eligibility by accessing the Bus Stop Information tab at www.schoolbuscity.com. Students not eligible for transportation who wish to obtain York Region Transit information should visit their website at www.yrt.ca or phone 1-866-668-3978.