



# *Joint Transportation*

2020 - 2021

**Fort McMurray**  
**Public Schools**



# DID YOU KNOW?

The Public School Division, Roman Catholic School Division, and École Boréal run a joint transportation system with common master stops, bus routes and schedules that are built to achieve maximum service with minimal fleet of buses. The principle of consistent service by rendering reasonable and equitable service to all students by supporting the enhancement of educational programming and school environment will be adhered to.

The master stop concept will use perimeter roads and RMWB transit stops where possible.

Change of address requests can be submitted to the school with a minimum of 5 days notice to allow time to coordinate any necessary route changes.

## Policies & General Information

Musical Band Instruments or large items: as directed by Alberta Transportation, bus drivers cannot accept instruments or large items that will not safely store under the seat facing the student. Contact your school prior to bringing large items on the bus or for a list of music instruments which are approved for transportation on the school bus.

The Board of Trustees is governed by Statute of the Education Act, Section 59 and 59.1 and School Transportation Regulation 102/2017. The Board in turn provides governance to the Administration of the School Division by Administrative Procedure 560 specifically and related policies for school attendance areas and student discipline. All the above information can be provided by your school administration.

The Alberta Ministry of Education has established that the distance of a residence, from a school or from a bus route, shall be the shortest distance measured along a travelled road or public right of way between the boundary of the school site or bus route, as the case may be, and nearest boundary corner of the quarter section or lot on which the student resides.

Transportation related policies and procedures can be obtained on our website [www.fmpsdschools.ca](http://www.fmpsdschools.ca). For other inquiries, please contact: [transportation@fmpsds.ab.ca](mailto:transportation@fmpsds.ab.ca).

# Eligible Transportation Service

Transportation Services are available for students whose residence (home address) is within their designated school boundary. Fees must be paid in full before access to Eligible Transportation will be granted.

## Basic Transportation Fees

One child \$410

Two children \$820

Three or more children \$1,230

# User-Pay Transportation Service

Offered to all students if their residence (home address) is between 1.0 and 2.4 km from their designated school provided there is an established yellow school bus route and provided that space is available on the yellow school bus. Students whose residence is within 1.0 km from their designated school but who can walk to a user pay bus stop may access User-pay services.

User-pay services will be made available on a priority basis as follows:

- Kindergarten to Grade 3 students and students with a certified medical condition
- Grade 4 to 6 students
- Grade 7 to 8 students

Parents/guardians must apply for user-pay service at their designated school during the regular student enrolment process. Completed applications with the appropriate fees are required before access to the user-pay service will be granted.

Fees for User-Pay are the same as the Basic Transportation Fees listed above. Failure to pay applicable fees in full will cause loss of student transportation privileges.

## Choice Schools

Parent/guardian may request to enroll their child in a school outside of their designated attendance boundary. Transportation services will then become the responsibility of parent/guardian.

Provided there is an established yellow school bus route and that space is available, students choosing this option will have access to transportation services on a priority basis – eligible and then user-pay.

Choice fees are \$410 per student with no family rate.

## Alternate Address (Babysitter/Joint-Custody) or Home and Alternate Address

Both addresses must fall within the catchment of the school attending. Students that request to be transported from both their home and alternate addresses on two different bus routes must first meet the applicable transportation criteria and fees based on the home address, and secondly will be required to pay the choice fee for the seat on the second bus in addition to any applicable fees for the first bus. Both addresses are subject to the 1.0km minimum distance to access service.

# Accommodating Special Needs & Medical Conditions

For student's eligible for transportation, accommodations may be made available for medical conditions supported by a doctor's certificate. Service may either be provided by regular or special means. Additional transportation costs incurred for students with medical conditions may be the responsibility of the parents/guardians.

The Assistant Superintendent Inclusive Education, in consultation with the Principal and Associate Superintendent Business and Finance, will determine the need and type of transportation for both temporary and long term medical condition students. The school administration is responsible for informing the Transportation Supervisor of the medical condition of the students that could impact transportation.

## Replacement Passes

Division issued yellow bus replacement passes may be purchased for a fee of \$10.00. Students are responsible for the cost of replacing transit bus passes.



# STUDENT & PARENT/ GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be at your designated stop at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time
- Ensure that your child is properly dressed in case of emergencies during cold or inclement weather and have a plan for them if there is a significant delay in bus arrival time
- Stay on the sidewalk while waiting for the bus and respect other people's property
- Cross road only at intersections or designated crosswalks. Please look both ways and cross only when it is safe to do so
- Make sure the bus has come to a full stop before approaching it
- Before boarding the bus, form a single file line and hold onto the rail when entering or leaving
- Show your bus pass to the driver when entering the bus
- Be seated promptly in your regular seat and stay seated during the entire bus trip
- Do not hang or throw any objects or put any parts of your body out of the bus windows
- Eating, drinking or smoking on the bus is not permitted
- The use of vulgar or offensive language is unacceptable and the "hands off" policy must be respected
- Please use your indoor voice when communicating on the bus
- The bus driver is in "charge" and the students are required to follow his/her direction
- Accept responsibility for the proper conduct of your child prior to boarding the bus, during the bus ride and upon discharge at the end of the school day
- Ensure that your child has a safe place to go when he or she leaves the bus after school



## Code of Conduct

School and Transit buses are considered extensions of the school setting. Any student whose conduct on a bus is improper or jeopardizes the safety of others may have their transportation privilege suspended for a period of time, up to the end of the school year, as defined by Division policy.

Uniform standards of conduct and disciplinary measures will be enforced. The bus driver shall report discipline matters to the principal of student's school.

The principal is responsible for all discipline matters pertaining to students being transported. Students are responsible for any damages or vandalism to transportation services or private property at bus stops, parents/guardians will be billed for any and all costs.

## PLEASE NOTE

**YELLOW SCHOOL BUSES MAY BE EQUIPPED WITH VIDEO CAMERAS THAT ARE THERE FOR SAFETY, DISCIPLINE AND SUPERVISORY PURPOSES.**



## REDS FLASHING...NO PASSING!

*It is illegal to pass a school bus when the red lights are flashing.*



**Fine \$543.00**  
**And**  
**6 Demerit Points!**

*School Bus Safety... it's everyone's responsibility!*



Safety is Our Commitment



*\*Maximum fine \$543.00*

Student Transportation Association of Alberta  
[www.staa.ab.ca](http://www.staa.ab.ca)

**IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY,  
RELIABILITY, AND MANAGE COSTS, THE FORT  
MCMURRAY SCHOOL DIVISION, FORT  
MCMURRAY ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE  
SCHOOL DIVISION AND ÉCOLE BORÉAL HAVE  
ENTERED INTO A JOINT AGREEMENT TO  
COMBINE THEIR TRANSPORTATIONS SERVICES.**



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