



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](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)

## Overview

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 includes:

- Student Transportation Services (STS) website information
- Transportation eligibility and route information
- Tips for Parents/Guardians (*to share with families*)
- September School Bus Transportation Notices (*to share with families*)

## Student Transportation Services Website

The STS website, [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com), is a valuable tool for schools and parents and contains important transportation information including:

- 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 brochure
- Policies and procedures
- Active and safe routes to schools
- *School Bus Operator Information*



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## **Transportation Eligibility and Route Information for Students in Regular, PACE and French Immersion programs.**

- Transportation eligibility can be determined by referring to the *Find Your Bus Stop* tab on [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://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. Non-eligible families will also 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.
- Please note that STS staff work throughout the summer to create bus routes for the first day of school in September. For the most up to date information, parents can access bus transportation arrangements after the third week of August.

### **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](http://www.schoolbuscity.com/mapnetweb).



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**Better Together!**  
Student Transportation Services of York Region

## Helpful Student Transportation Tips for Parents/Guardians

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STS promotes the Safe Rider Identification program which utilizes stickers affixed to student's backpacks to ensure primary grade students board the correct bus at schools and disembark the bus at their appropriate stop locations. In addition to this program 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 for the first day of school.
- Introduce yourself to other parents and students at the stop. This helps student's gain confidence as they come to recognize familiar faces at their bus stop location.
- JK, SK and Grade 1 students must be met at the bus stop by a responsible person. Approach the bus and identify to the driver the child/children you are receiving.
- Keep your phone records and emergency contact numbers up to date with the school office. STS receives this information electronically through the school.
- Record the bus company name 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 service providers, 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](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) beginning Monday August 21. 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, it is anticipated each bus route will develop 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. As indicated below, transportation eligibility will change throughout a student's school career:

- All YCDSB students in JK - Grade 3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are **not eligible** for transportation.
- All YCDSB students in Grades 4 - 8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are **not eligible** for transportation.
- All YCDSB students in Grades 9 - 12 who live within 4.8 km of their school in a transit served area are **not eligible** for transportation.
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Students currently in Grade 3 and Grade 8 who use school transportation services may see a change in their eligibility to continue to use these services as they transition into Grade 4 and Grade 9.

Parents of students entering Grade 4 and Grade 9 who are eligible for transportation may review bus stop information by visiting [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com). Grade 9 students not eligible for transportation who may wish to obtain York Region Transit information should visit their website at [www.yrt.ca](http://www.yrt.ca) or phone 1-866-668-3978.



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## Grade 8 Transportation Eligibility Notice

STS provides transportation for students in accordance with Board policy that establishes grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone parameters. Transportation is provided for students who live within their Home School attendance area and outside their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone.

- All secondary students in Grades 9 – 12 who live within 4.8 km of their school in a transit served area\* are not eligible for transportation.

*\*Secondary school students who reside in a non-transit served community are eligible for transportation if they reside further than 3.2 km from school.*

**Some students currently transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9 may see a change in their eligibility to continue to use the school bus service.**

**Example:** *A Grade 8 student who lives 1.7 km from school would be eligible for transportation if their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone extends 1.6 km from the school. However, when a student enters Grade 9, they are no longer eligible for transportation as their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone extends 4.8 km from the school.*

If you are not eligible for school bus service and require York Region Transit route information, please visit their website at [www.yrt.ca](http://www.yrt.ca) or phone 1-866-668-3978.

If based on the criteria above, you are eligible to receive school bus service and need to determine the closest bus stop to your residence, please visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com). Once you have determined the stop nearest to your home, please proceed to use the stop. There is no need to register for service.

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## Grade 3 Transportation Eligibility Notice

STS provides transportation for students in accordance with Board policy that establishes grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone parameters. As a result, students living within their school's Non-Transportation Zone, as listed below, are not eligible for school bus transportation:

GRADES	NON-TRANSPORTATION ZONE
JK - 3	0 – 1.2 KM
4 - 8	0 – 1.6 KM

As outlined in the chart above, some students currently in Grade 3 who use school transportation services may see a change in their eligibility to continue to use these services as they transition into Grade 4.

**Example:** A Grade 3 student who lives 1.4 km from school would be eligible for transportation as their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone extends 1.2 km from the school. However, when the student enters Grade 4, they are no longer eligible for transportation as their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone extends 1.6 km from the school.

**Note:** Some families may experience different service levels for different students. To determine student transportation eligibility, please visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).

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