

## **TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS**

Within British Columbia, transportation to and from school is the responsibility of parents and guardians. However, recognizing that school buses provide the safest way for students to attend school and reduce barriers for school attendance, the District endeavours to provide a safe, efficient, inclusive and cost-effective system of school bus transportation for families.

### **Ridership Eligibility**

Transportation services will be available for those students enrolled in the District and will be defined by community in the Administrative Procedure Manual.

There are inherent limitations transporting students, in accordance with the School Act, bus transportation for students is provided at the discretion of the Board. Consistency and transparency are critical to this policy. The routes will be reviewed and adjusted as needed through the Administrative Procedure Manual. It is recognized that bus transportation routes will not suit the requests of all parents/guardians.

The Board will pay transportation assistance to the parents/guardians of students who qualify for transportation and for whom it is not cost effective practical, or possible to provide bus service.

### **Courtesy Riders**

Transportation services may be provided to courtesy riders if there is space available, provided at no additional cost where no scheduling or routing adjustments have to be made. The approval and protocols for courtesy riders are provided in the Administrative Procedure Manual.

### **Safety and Travel Responsibilities**

Safety is our highest priority. Parents/guardians are responsible for student safety up until the moment the student boards the school bus at the beginning of the day and from the moment that the student disembarks from the school bus at the end of the day. The District is responsible for the safety of students while being transported by school bus.

The operation of the transportation department is dynamic and the decision making process is delegated to the Secretary Treasurer to ensure the safety of the students and employees.

Communication with schools, students and bus families is of utmost importance to ensure that service is equitable, safe and efficient.