



May 16, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

For the past two years, the CBE has been working towards developing a long-term, sustainable transportation system. We are making a number of scheduled changes for the 2017-18 school year that will eliminate the need to subsidize the costs of transportation from the larger CBE budget. We will continue to ensure the delivery of safe and efficient transportation for students.

A chart with full details about service levels and fees can be found on the CBE website: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/news-centre/Documents/Transportation-Service-Levels-Chart-2017-18.pdf>

### **Pre-registration starts May 23**

The transportation pre-registration period will begin on Tuesday, May 23 and close on Monday, June 5.

Transportation pre-registrations can be completed using [My CBE Account](#). To be included in the yellow school bus route planning for September, parents must pre-register by June 5. Any registrations received after that date will not be considered until route changes are done after Thanksgiving. The more registrations we receive by the deadline, the more efficient route planning will be for September.

Note| CBE transportation service levels and fees are subject to Ministerial approval.

### **2017-18 Transportation Fees**

Through Bill 1, the government has eliminated transportation fees for kindergarten to Grade 9 students in who live 2.4 km or more away from their designated Regular Program school and are assigned to a yellow school bus route. Students requiring complex learning needs transportation or attending a special setting will also be exempt from transportation fees.

Grade 6-12 students residing more than 2.4 km from their designated school attending a Regular Program and assigned to Calgary Transit will be responsible for purchasing monthly bus passes at the cost of \$70/month. The CBE will rebate families \$549/year, meaning they will pay \$151/year. More details about the rebate program will be announced before the end of the school year.

Other Regular Program rides living closer than 2.4 km to their school and all Alternative Program riders assigned to yellow school buses will be charged \$335/year. This is the same fee as 2016-17. Those assigned to Calgary Transit will pay \$700/year.

### **2017-18 Transportation Service Levels**

For the majority of students attending a Regular Program at their designated school, transportation service levels will remain similar to what was provided this year. The CBE will continue to work within current guidelines, where feasible, to provide yellow school bus transportation. This means that elementary students will access a stop within 1.6 km of their homes and middle school/junior high students will access a stop

within 1.8 km of their homes. The majority of students will access a bus stop that is approximately 500 m from their homes.

Starting in September 2017 the majority of students in Alternative Programs will access yellow school bus service within a congregated stop model. This will be a new change for Alternative Language Program students; however, the congregated stop model has already been successfully implemented for other Alternative Programs this year.

Despite the change, we anticipate the majority of students in larger alternative programs (French Immersion, Spanish Bilingual and Traditional Learning Centres) will have a stop within 1 km from home because of the higher density of student population within a community accessing these schools and programs. The longest distances to a yellow bus stop will be for students travelling across the city to a program at a single site. These students may have bus stops located beyond the travel distance guidelines.

Mid-day kindergarten service will be maintained for all programs. Fees are determined by the program your child attends.

#### **More information**

Walk zone and transportation eligibility maps will be posted on [school profile pages](#) by May 23.

Fees (if required) are not due until October 2017. You will be able to cancel by October 31, 2017 with no financial penalty. Waiver information will be shared with parents by the end of June.

We appreciate the feedback we receive and the valuable discussions that took place during our transportation engagement last spring. We continue to work to continuously improve transportation services and remain financially responsible based on the shared values we heard. Thank you for your support.

If you have any questions, please contact your principal directly or review the [FAQs](#) posted on the CBE website.

#### **Information sessions – May 24 & 25**

If the FAQs do not answer your question, please contact your principal. You can also get questions answered by attending a community meeting. Learn more by clicking on the registration links below.

May 24, 2017  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Queen Elizabeth High School  
512 18 St. N.W.

[Register](#)

May 25, 2017  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Dr. E.P. Scarlett High School  
220 Canterbury Dr. S.W.  
[Register](#)