



Transportation Information for New Secondary Students – 2019/20

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

November 2018

Thank you for considering attending one of the Board's secondary schools.

Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO) oversees transportation for students attending schools within the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB, the Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB, and Conseil Scolaire Catholique MonAvenir.

The following information details transportation eligibility distances, policies, and important related procedures. It is provided to assist you in making decisions regarding school attendance for next year. Please also note that our website can be found at www.stsco.ca and it serves as the primary means for students, parents and families to gather transportation related information and to communicate with STSCO.

- *Transportation eligibility distance (the distance beyond which bussing may be provided) is 3.2 km measured from closest point of a student's primary, home residence property to closest pedestrian access to the school property (not the school building).*
- The guideline for transportation eligibility distance to a bus stop is 1.6 km (in some cases students may live further from their stop than this distance due to local road conditions and related factors).
- Eligibility distances are measured via publicly maintained road and/or walkway.
- Measurement of eligibility distance is the responsibility of STSCO staff.
- Transportation is not provided on roads which are not municipally assumed and maintained year round.
- Bus routes are set by STSCO prior to the start of school in September.
- 1.5 hours, one-way ride time (i.e. the morning ride or the afternoon ride) is the guideline for maximum length of bus ride. In some cases, ride times can exceed this guideline for secondary school and special program students due to the regional nature of their program of choice.
- In accordance with Board Policy, students can only be assigned to a consistent morning pick-up and a consistent afternoon drop-off location and both stops must be on the same, single bus route.
- In some areas, bus routes may be shared by students from more than one school and between elementary and secondary. Students are expected to behave appropriately on all bus rides.
- Students are responsible for adhering to good conduct on their bus as it is viewed as being similar to a school classroom, with the driver being the supervising adult who reports to the School Principal.
- Bus stops are set and assessed by STSCO and our bus companies to ensure that they are in reasonable locations relative to passing traffic and the ability for students to stand near the stop while waiting for the bus.

In general, it is very important for parents, guardians and families to remember that they themselves are responsible for safely getting students to and from assigned bus stops.

The School Boards are pleased and proud to offer transportation service to eligible students and would remind everyone that *riding on a school bus is a privilege, not a right and should be treated accordingly.*

STSCO wishes students and families much success as they move forward with choosing their school.

Joel Sloggett, Chief Administrative Officer, STSCO

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