

Message for Parents - School Transportation

August 21, 2020

The planning is underway to greet students for the new school year, with all the necessary measures in place. As the new school year approaches, please take the time to talk with your child and reassure them that their safety and security is our main priority.

This year, an online version of your child's bus information will be available through the Mozaïk Parent Portal as of August 24th 2020. This information is available for all students who use the ETSB transportation system in the Eastern sector and those who are transported by the transportation system for the Centre de services scolaire du Vals-des-Cerfs, in the western sector. Depending on which service your child uses, the instructions vary, so please choose the link for your sector on the transportation section of the ETSB website.

Please note that the pick-up times indicated are approximate. For the first few days, and until the school bus schedule has stabilized, your child should be ready for the school bus at least **10 minutes earlier** than the time indicated.

Please note that you must inform your child's school of any change of address at least two (2) weeks prior to the effective date of the change. You will be responsible for transporting your child until the new transportation information is issued. Please use the online form: http://www.etsb.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Proof-of-designated-address-form-2020.pdf and send it to your school's secretary.

If your situation has changed and you will be transporting your child to and from school, please email transportation@etsb.qc.ca.

We want to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on how our school transportation will operate for the start of the 2020-2021 school year:

- The capacity on our buses will be reduced to 2 students per seat, therefore a maximum of 48 students on a bus. In some cases siblings who are living at the same address may be placed 3 to a seat.
- Students from grade 5 to secondary 5 must have a mask and wear all the time while
 they are on the bus. For younger students it is <u>strongly recommended</u> that they also
 have and wear a mask. Parents must provide a mask for their child, as part of their
 consumables. For information on masks, how to wear them, how to make them, etc. visit

the Quebec.ca website Wearing a mask or a face covering in public settings in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- During the first few days of school, students will have a seating plan for the school bus and will be required to stay in this seat for the school year.
- Students are asked to wash their hands before leaving for the bus in the morning and before leaving school at the end of the day. As well, hand sanitizer will be available for students when they get on and off the bus.
- All school buses will be thoroughly cleaned between the morning and afternoon bus runs and before the start of each day.
- Bus drivers will have protective equipment (PPE) to protect themselves and students.
- Walking distances will be enforced as per the transportation policy, therefore if your child
 has had bus transportation in the past as a courtesy, this may not be the case for the
 start of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Students may be limited to one address for transportation purposes.

If you require more information or clarification concerning the transportation of your child, please contact the Transportation Department or visit the school board website at www.etsb.gc.ca.

Thank you and have a good back to school.

Transportation Department Eastern Townships School Board transportation@etsb.qc.ca 819-868-3100, ext. 40058