

## Important message regarding school transportation

Dear Parents,

We hope that your summer is going well. The first day of the 2022-2023 school year is fast approaching.

We would like to clarify the situation in regards to school transportation for the next school year. More specifically, issues surrounding renewal of service contracts with carriers.

Unlike the majority of school boards and service centres in Quebec, the Eastern Townships School Board provides transportation services with its own employees for all students in the eastern area of its territory, specifically for students attending the following schools: **Alexander Galt Regional High School, Richmond Regional High School, ADS Elementary School, Ayer's Cliff Elementary School, Cookshire Elementary School, Drummondville Elementary School, Lennoxville Elementary School, North Hatley Elementary School, Pope Memorial Elementary School, Princess Elizabeth Elementary School, Sawyerville Elementary School, Sherbrooke Elementary School, St. Francis Elementary School and Sunnyside Elementary School.**

For students who attend these schools, the transportation service will take place as usual from the beginning of the school year.

## Ongoing negotiations

Students in the western part of our territory, students who attend **Massey-Vanier High School, Butler Elementary School, Farnham Elementary School, Heroes' Memorial Elementary School, Knowlton Academy, Mansonville Elementary School, Parkview Elementary School, Sutton Elementary School and Waterloo Elementary School**, benefit from a transportation service provided by independent carriers. School boards and school service centres (including the Eastern Townships School Board) contract with carriers to transport students.

Despite the fact that negotiations with our carriers began last winter for the renewal of contracts, we are still in negotiations, as are most schools boards and school services centres in the province. No agreement has been reached to date in order to provide back-to-school transportation service.

## Service failure (disruption) possibility

School transportation may not be available for our schools in the western area as may be the case for many schools in the province.

We will keep you informed when as soon as relevant information becomes available or if an agreement has been reached.

## Alternative solution

For the parents of the students in the western area, it is therefore necessary to provide for an alternative solution now so that your child can continue to go to class. Despite this possible interruption of services in school transportation, classes and school activities will be maintained and your child is still required to attend school. You may need to transport your child.

In the meantime, rest assured that the Eastern Townships School Board will continue to make every effort to avoid a service interruption and ensure transportation for all our students from the first day of school.

We thank you for your customary understanding and collaboration.

Michael Murray  
Chair of the Eastern Townships School Board