

School District #62 (Sooke)

TRANSPORTATION	No.: F-100
	Effective: Sept. 22/81 Revised: Feb. 22/83; Oct. 22/83; May 23/89; Oct. 23/90; Jul. 5/05; Jan. 26/21; Apr. 26.22 Reviewed: Dec. 1/20; Dec. 15/20; Jan. 26/21; Feb. 1/22; Feb. 22/22; Apr. 5/22; Apr. 26/22

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

1. Registration Process

The District will utilize a defined period registration process that will open March 1 of each year. On April 30 of each year, the registration process will pause and District staff will use registered rider information at that time to develop bus routes for the following year.

All riders registering after May 1 of each year will be placed on an existing route pending available room and on a "first come, first served" basis.

The District will strive to post the routes for the following year and will communicate the route information (stops and times) to families by June 30. The ability to post the routes prior to June 30 is dependent on the amount of registrations received by April 30.

Registration will remain open for the remainder of the school year in which the service is being provided.

Additional routes will only be created if the Secretary-Treasurer requests and receives additional funding from the Board of Education to add additional routes.

2. Transportation Fees

The District will consider charging students a fee for transportation services (ridership fee) during the District's annual budget development process.

The District will charge an annual Safety Fee to be used to improve the safety for students and staff engaged in District transportation services. This fee, set annually by the Board of Education, will not exceed \$25/rider.

The District will charge a late registration fee to be set annually by the Board and not to exceed \$100/family for any registration request received after September 1. Exceptions will be provided to families moving into or within the District after the late registration date.

As with all District fees, a fee waiver process will be available to families if any fee causes undue financial hardship.

3. Eligible Riders

Eligible riders are considered to be those students travelling to their catchment school or students attending an educational program of choice or academy program not offered at their catchment school.

Educational programs of choice are defined as:

- French Immersion
- Trades Awareness and Skills Knowledge
- Nature Kindergarten

Accessible busing will be provided to those students requiring this service.

4. Student Walk Limits

The Ministry of Education's guidelines for student walk limits are as follows:

Primary students: 4 km to or from school

Intermediate & Graduation students: 4.8 km to or from school

These limits are measured by the shortest possible road distance.

The walk limits from home also apply where a student is required to walk to a designated bus stop.

The District will not follow these Student Walk Limit guidelines and instead will work with the school and local authorities to identify and/or create safe routes to school. The intent of these safe routes is to increase the number of those walking and wheeling to and from school which will support the health and wellness of our students.

Where safe routes to a school have been identified, bus transportation services will not be offered by the District.

5. Route and Schedule Changes

Where proposed changes would affect school arrival and departure times, the Secretary-Treasurer shall consult with the principal(s) involved and with the Superintendent of Schools before approval is given. Addition or deletion of routes requires the approval of the Secretary-Treasurer.

To the extent possible, routes will be designed to have students arrive at school no earlier than 30 minutes before the school's first bell and depart from schools no later than 30 minutes after the school's final bell.

Route schedules will be sent to schools and registered riders by June 30 of the preceding year. It is in the best interests of the District and the riders that passenger lists be kept as current as possible.