

**DATE:** April 10, 2018

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:** Lower Cost or No Cost Transportation  
(Response to Request for Information #015)

**ORIGINATOR:** Dr. Lorne Parker, Assistant Superintendent, Infrastructure

**RESOURCE STAFF:** Alison Cheesbrough, Geoff Holmes, Christopher Wright

**REFERENCE:** March 20, 2018, Board meeting

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### ISSUE

The following information was requested:

What measures does the District have in place for low-income families to access lower-cost or no-cost transportation services, both for yellow bus service and Edmonton Transportation System?

### BACKGROUND

Student Transportation reviews bus pass fees on an annual basis and submits the next year's fee schedule to the Board of Trustees for approval, typically in May (Attachment I). Bus fees are set based on a number of factors, such as cost of providing transportation, provincial funding provided, and fee increase guidelines set out in *Bill 1: An Act to Reduce School Fees*.

Regulatory changes implemented following the passing of *Bill 1*, provided parents whose children attend their designated school and reside more than 2.4 kilometres away and those who attend a designated special needs program with no-charge yellow bus passes and for transit users, the ability to buy lower-cost Edmonton Transit Service bus passes.

### CURRENT SITUATION

Fees for bus passes are collected by school administration, and any decisions regarding waiving fees for individual families is made at the school level following the fee waiver process outlined in [Administrative Regulation HNB.AR – School Fees](#). In 2016–2017, approximately \$500,000 of bus pass fees were waived. This number is expected to decrease in 2017–2018 following the implementation of regulatory changes resulting from *Bill 1*.

### KEY POINTS

- *Bill 1* provides no-cost yellow busing to students attending their designated school who reside more than 2.4 kilometres away or who attend a designated special needs program, regardless of distance.
- Schools are able to waive fees for individual students based on the process in Administrative Regulation HNB.AR – Student Fees.
- Administration will present a recommendation regarding transportation fees to Trustees prior to the 2018–2019 school year.

### ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I 2017–2018 Student Transportation Fee Schedule

GH:ks

## 2017-18 Student Transportation Fees

The following fees apply to students that are eligible for transportation.

For more information, please contact **Student Transportation at 780-429-8585** or talk to your school.

### KINDERGARTEN

There is no charge for Kindergarten students applying for Yellow Bus transportation.

	GRADE 1 to 6				GRADE 7 to 12			
	Yellow Bus (Monthly)	Yellow Bus (Annual)	ETS (Monthly)	ETS (Annual)	Yellow Bus (Monthly)	Yellow Bus (Annual)	ETS (Monthly)	ETS (Annual)
<b>Attending their designated school</b>								
Students attending their designated school and reside <b>2.4 km away or more</b>	\$0	–	\$18	\$180	\$0	–	\$18	\$180
Students attending their designated school and reside <b>less than 2.4 km away</b>	\$30	\$240	\$30	\$240	\$55	\$470	\$55	\$470
<b>Grade 7-9 students</b> continuing to attend the same designated school as attended in elementary and reside <b>less than 2.4 km away</b>	–	–	–	–	\$30	\$240	–	–
<b>Not attending their designated school</b>								
Students not attending their designated school regardless of distance	–	–	\$55	\$470	–	–	\$55	\$470
Students attending bilingual or immersion program	\$30	\$240	\$30	\$240	–	–	–	–
Students attending other alternative program (not bilingual or immersion)	\$55	\$470	\$55	\$470	–	–	–	–
<b>Special education needs curb service</b>								
Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and students from Grade 1 to 12 with special education needs who are unable to use regular bus routes	\$0	\$0	–	–	\$0	\$0	–	–
<b>Conditional riders (Kindergarten to Grade 12)</b>								
	\$55	–	–	–	\$55	–	–	–
<b>Replacement cost (lost or stolen)</b>								
	\$6	–	\$73	–	\$6	–	\$73	–
<b>Family maximum (applies to Grade 1 to 6 only)</b>								
Students attending designated school	\$72	\$570	\$72	\$570	–	–	–	–
Students attending bilingual or immersion program	\$72	\$570	\$72	\$570	–	–	–	–
Students attending other alternative program (not bilingual or immersion)	\$135	\$1149	\$135	\$1149	–	–	–	–

#### ANNUAL PASS

- Annual yellow bus passes look different than monthly passes.
- Annual passes must be paid in full at the school office by September 15, 2017.

#### EDMONTON TRANSIT PASSES

- Students enrolled at a District elementary, junior high or senior high school can purchase an ETS bus pass at their school.
- Passes are valid for unlimited travel on Edmonton Transit, including statutory holidays.
- Students can buy a replacement ETS pass at their school, or request a free replacement for a damaged ETS pass by turning in an identifiable piece of the damaged pass.