

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES CHANGES TO TRANSPORTATION FEES AND POLICIES

February 27, 2020

KELOWNA, BC – At the February 26, 2020 Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education reviewed the recommendations of the Transportation Task Force as well as the recommendations the Board revised on February 12. These recommendations came as a result of an extensive public consultation process that reviewed feedback from approximately 4,000 survey responses and hundreds of conversations with community members at the five public consultation sessions.

The Board of Education approved changes to <u>Regulation 425R – Student Fees</u> and <u>Regulation 470R – Transportation Services Management</u>, which are summarized as follows:

Policy	<b>Current Policies</b>	Revised Policies
Transportation fee	\$225	\$300
Elementary Eligibility Limit	4.0 km	3.0 km
Middle School Eligibility Limit	4.8 km	4.0 km
Secondary School Eligibility Limit	4.8 km	4.8 km
Registration Deadline	N/A	May 31
Fee Subsidy – Additional Income based method	N/A	Included
Secondary Students in areas with adequate transit service	N/A	Service is discontinued. No areas will be deemed to have adequate service for the 2020-21 school year.
Courtesy seats for students under 2.0 kms	Allow	Disallow
Courtesy seat assignment priority	On a route by route basis based on distance.	One a route by route basis. Priority first to Elementary and Middle School courtesy riders based on distance and then seats allocated to Secondary students based on distance
Removal of courtesy riders to accommodate new eligible riders that register during the year	Allow	Remove from policy and discontinue practice
Additional fee for students that require more than one route	N/A	Additional fee is charged if a seat is available
Restriction on bus transfers and how many students can be at a bus stop	No transfers permitted and a guideline of only 15 students per stop	Removed from policy
Ride time guideline	40 minutes	60 minutes
Busing service for families with outstanding fees	N/A	All outstanding fees must be paid, arranged for payment or subsidized to receive busing service.

Registration for busing for the 2020-21 school year will be open to the public on March 2, 2020.

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For comments, please contact: Moyra Baxter, Board Chairperson, 250-767-6153 Ryan Stierman, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO, 250-470-3224