



DATE: September 28, 2022

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Shawna Warren, Superintendent

ORIGINATOR: Liliana LeVesconte, Associate Superintendent, Corporate Services

GOVERNANCE POLICY: [Policy 500 - Transportation](#)
[Policy 105: Vision, Mission and Values](#)

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE: [AP565 – School Bus Safety](#)
[AP550 – Contract Bus Service](#)
Education Act: Sections 7(1), 4(1)(8), 59(1)
School Transportation Regulation AR96/2019

SUBJECT: Transportation Update Summary

PURPOSE:

For information.

BACKGROUND:

The Division currently has 69 buses running under 18 contractors and is transporting roughly 2,915 students. Transportation Services is in the process of establishing one more bus route in the Bon Accord Catchment to help reduce ride times.

Over the course of the 2022-2023 school year, Transportation Services will be completing an in-depth cost analysis to provide the Board of Trustees with evidence and options for informed decision-making for the 2023-2024 budget. In preparation for the 2023-2024 school year, the Division will be looking at potentially implementing walk boundaries for the Town of Morinville and the Town of Gibbons to help address the overloading concerns within both of these towns and to incorporate the current 2.4km Alberta Education funding regulation into transportation services. In this analysis, Transportation Services will also be assessing the walking pathways inside the 2.4km to ensure the safety of students.

There have been some instances where bus operators have had conversations with parents/guardians, outside of Division direction/communication, that have caused some concern and additional pressures. The Division will continue to work collaboratively with bus contractors to ensure messaging is in alignment with Board policy and operational decisions.

The Division receives many transportation requests for Namao and Guthrie students to access Sturgeon Composite High School (SCHS) buses to get to their respective schools because the SCHS buses travel throughout most of the Division. The Division is currently revisiting this process for the Board of Trustees for future consideration. As Namao School and SCHS are located on Highway 37, traffic congestion and long ride times are a safety concern.

Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the September 28, 2022, Public Board meeting.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Not applicable.