

Dear parents/guardians,

As you may be aware, the provincial government has implemented changes to student transportation that will take effect in September 2024. Currently, all students who live 2.4 km or more from their designated school are eligible for student transportation. In September 2024, this will change to all Kindergarten - Grade 6 students who live 1 km or further and all Grade 7 - 12 students who live 2 km or further from their designated school. These changes will take time to implement; more school buses need to be acquired, new drivers recruited, and school bus routes will need to be redesigned.

For September 2023, STAR Catholic will be implementing the following registration process:

## • All students who would like to utilize the school bus must register prior to June 15, 2023

- The transportation registration deadline has moved to 12 pm June 15, 2023 to provide us time to follow up with families where clarification is needed, prior to the end of the school year.
- Registrations received after the June 15, 2023 deadline will be processed over the summer months and assigned to the bus as space allows.
- Parents/guardians will be contacted by the first week of July to indicate if their children have been placed on a bus and whether or not a transportation fee will apply, OR if they have been placed on a waiting list.
  - If a fee applies, parents/guardians must confirm that they would like to proceed with registration no later than July 12, 2023 by email.

All school bus registrations will be assigned to the bus in the following order, as space allows:

- 1. Eligible students living 2.4 km or further from their designated school
- 2. Existing ineligible students (living closer than 2.4 km to their designated school) who are currently transported
- 3. Students who will become eligible under the new 2024-25 guidelines (K-6 1 km or more, Gr 7-12 2 km or more)
  - a. Kindergarten Grade 3 will be assigned first, along with other family members

STAR Catholic is actively working with our existing contractors to add capacity where possible prior to the start of the 2023-24 school year, and will continue to add capacity as we are able. Because this is dependent on the availability of school buses and bus drivers, students may be placed on a waiting list if they are existing ineligible students or will be newly eligible under the 2024-25 guidelines.

For more information, please visit our website.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.