



Inclement Weather and Service Cancellation

On occasion school transportation may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Cancellation decisions are made after consultation with safety representatives from bus companies and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and Environment Canada forecasts.

Please access www.ststb.ca, our delay reporting app, STSTB social media accounts, the STSTB Weather Closure Line: 807-625-1661, or local media outlets before 7 a.m. to receive cancellation information.

NOTE if buses are cancelled in the morning they will not operate in the afternoon.

First Rider Program

Each August, STSTB presents our First Rider program designed for young, first-time school bus riders. This fun learning experience helps children prepare for riding the school bus.

Participation will help alleviate concerns and answer questions you may have regarding the safety of your child while riding on or walking around a school bus.

For further information regarding this valuable program and other transportation information please visit www.ststb.ca

Accessing Busing Information

Parents and students can access their current school bus information by visiting www.ststb.ca and clicking on the **Parent Portal**. Once there, create a one-time account and add your student(s) to your account by entering verification information for each. Once added, log into your account anytime to see your child's current busing information.

Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay

STSTB.ca



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THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Introduction

Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay (STSTB) is a student transportation consortium formed in January 2008 through an agreement between Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Aurores boréales, Lakehead District School Board and Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board.

The purpose of the consortium is to provide common administration of student transportation services for its member Boards (extended to Conseil scolaire du Grand Nord in 2023) within Thunder Bay and surrounding townships.

The consortium plans and implements home to school transportation for more than 8,000 students within a 5,086 square kilometer service area.

Eligibility

In accordance with Ministry of Education Guidelines and School Board Policies, STSTB provides transportation for students who live within their Home School Attendance Area and outside their grade appropriate Non-Transportation Zone

Students in **grades K1 and K2** who live beyond **0.8 km** walk distance from the school are eligible for transportation. Students in **grades 1-8** who live beyond **1.6 km** walk distance from the school are eligible for transportation. Students in **grades 9-12** who live beyond **3.2 km** walk distance from the school are eligible for transportation.

Non-Transportation Zones are measured walkouts from the school property lines.

Distance Measurements are measured using geometrics planning software. The software calculates the distance from the closest property line of the home to the closest property line of the school or bus stop by public pathway and public road using the shortest route.

Reported Delays

Information on bus delays and our delay notifications app is available at www.ststb.ca

Bus Stop Locations

STSTB creates bus stops at safe, centralized group stop locations in urban and developed rural areas with priority given to K1 then K2 students in determining stop locations. Students are required to walk a short distance based on their grade to their designated stop locations.

Students in **grades K1 and K2** are required to **walk up to 400 meters** to and from their bus stop. Students in **grades 1-8** are required to **walk up to 800 meters** to and from their bus stop. Students in **grades 9-12** are required to **walk up to 1600 meters** to and from their bus stop.

For reasons of safety and efficiency, school buses are generally not routed to travel on private roads, 'dead-end' streets, cul-de-sacs, courts or crescents, therefore the above walk to stop distances may be longer.

For non-through rural roads where the furthest student resides less than 500 meters from the closest crossroad, the bus stop will be located at the nearest cross road.

Having students walk to and from centralized bus stops increases routing efficiency, reduces the amount of time students spend travelling on a school bus and promotes a healthy, active lifestyle.

Transporting Items on School Buses

Items may be transported on a school bus providing:

Items do not block the aisles or Emergency Exits;

Items fit on a student's lap or under a seat and cannot move when the brakes of the vehicle are applied or during vehicle acceleration.

Note: Ice skates may be transported if they are carried in a small sports bag. Animals will not be permitted on the bus unless they are required to assist a student with special needs.

Student Responsibilities

*Students are responsible to the school principal for their conduct on the bus and are to follow instructions from the driver. Student conduct that endangers the safety or health of others may result in the **loss of transportation privileges**.*

Students shall:

- Arrive at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the scheduled pick up time
- Refrain from boisterous behaviour, fighting and the use of profane language
- Remain seated at all times
- Refrain from eating, drinking or littering
- Be responsible for any willful damage or vandalism to the school bus

Parent Responsibilities

Parents are responsible for their child's safe journey to and from a bus stop and their supervision while at a bus stop. Parents should make alternate arrangements if they are unable to meet their child at the bus stop.

Visible Parent Rule

All students enrolled in Kindergarten, must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or caretaker to the bus stop for pick up and must be met by a parent, guardian or caregiver at the bus stop for drop-off. K1 and K2 students who do not have a visible parent, guardian or caretaker at their designated drop-off will be returned to the school where their parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up the student.