



April 30, 2021

Transportation Fee Changes – All Riders

On April 27, 2021 the Board of Education approved the following Transportation fee changes effective for the 2021/22 school year:

- Courtesy rider designation for **secondary** students who reside on Promontory and are within walk limits*.
- Administration of registration fees for all bus riders

These changes were mainly in response to a significant budget shortfall for the 2021/22 school year. Currently the funding that we receive for bussing is \$500,000 less than what it costs to operate this service.

PROMONTORY STUDENTS RIDING to G.W. GRAHAM

Secondary students who reside on Promontory and are within walk limits are considered courtesy riders if they choose to register for bussing. The courtesy rider fee is \$260 per student or \$520 per family. These rates will be adjusted annually based on the Canadian Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Rationale:

In August 2015, the Board changed the designation of Courtesy Rider to Regular Rider for Promontory students going to GW Graham School and adjusted the budget to absorb the cost of ridership for these students. Since this time, the grade levels for GW Graham have changed from 7-12 to 9-12, and many safety features have been added to Promontory and the path to the secondary school.

These safety features include:

- Sidewalks
- Well lit, paved path from the bottom of the hill to the crosswalk at Thomas Rd directly across from school

Secondary students who reside **outside** of walk limits for GW Graham Secondary will still be considered Regular Riders.

REGISTRATION FEE

All riders will incur annual registration fee of **\$25**.

Rationale:

Currently, any student who is considered an eligible rider must register to obtain a bus pass. Many students are registered to ride, but do not actually use the service or use it very seldomly. This

registration holds a spot on the bus regardless if they never ride the bus. This creates situations on buses where there are many seats unused.

Having a registration fee not only helps to support the costs of continuing service and safety enhancements, the fee also deters registrations for those who utilize the service infrequently or as a back up plan.

This fee is a separate charge to the Courtesy Rider Fee which is outlined in the Administrative Regulation 710.4 – Transportation – Registration and Fees (link provided below).

***RELATED INFORMATION and LINKS**

Please visit <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/transportation-department> for more information on how to register, who to contact and rider zones. Instructions on how to pay fees will be provided as part of the registration process.

Please visit the link below to review Policies and Administrative Regulations on transportation services including fees, eligibility and walk limits.

<https://www.sd33.bc.ca/transportation-policies-and-regulations>

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