



Dear Parents/ Guardians:

WRPS has created a [Guide for Students, Staff and Families](#) in preparation for Re-entry to school for the 2020-2021 school year.

To supplement that guide, this letter outlines Transportation's approach to Re-entry following direction and recommendations from the Alberta Government, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Education as well as additional precautionary measures to safeguard the well-being of our students and drivers when buses resume service.

While WRPS will endeavor to reduce risk of transmission, physical distancing on a school bus is extremely difficult. Students will need to take extra precautions while on the bus and in loading/unloading areas. The following protocols have been implemented to limit COVID-19 transmission on our buses:

- Parents and students will not be in the pick-up area or enter the bus if they have symptoms of COVID-19.
- Bus drivers and students will complete the [self-screening tool](#) each day prior to leaving their home for the bus.
- Students will be assigned seats and a record of this seating plan will be kept in order to assist with contact tracing in the case of a student being a case of COVID-19. Students who live in the same household will be seated together. Seat assignments will be the same for the AM and PM routes.
- As much as practical, students start boarding from the back seats to the front of the bus.
- As much as practical, students start disembarking from the front seats to the back of the bus.
- All students must perform hand hygiene (hand sanitizer) when entering the bus until further notice.
- Mask use is mandatory for all bussing students on the bus, in loading/ unloading zones and at transfer sites.
 - o On the first day of school, students are required to have and wear their own disposable mask on the bus. 2 reusable masks will be issued by the school.
 - o Students not wearing a mask will not be allowed entry onto the bus. Bus drivers may have a very limited number of disposable masks to hand out if necessary.
 - o In exceptional circumstances, mask usage for students with identified special education needs will be reviewed by the school learning team. Expectations regarding mask usage for these students will be determined and outlined in the Individual Program Plan on a case-by-case basis.
- Bus drivers will wear a mask or face shield when students are loading and unloading.
- If a student becomes symptomatic during the bus trip, the bus driver will notify the school upon delivering the student so that the school can make the appropriate arrangements to pick up the student (see Responding to Illness).



- No sharing of personal items (toys, water bottles, cell phones, gaming devices, etc.)
- No eating or drinking is permitted on the bus.
- Prior to each run, bus drivers will clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces including seats, door handles, window areas, rails, steering wheel, and mobile devices.
- Daily vehicle cleaning check lists and logs will be kept and subjected to audit verification
- Each bus will have signage promoting hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, physical distancing, etc., posted in visible locations.

It is extremely important that all students adhere to the measures in place and are committed to keeping our transportation environments as safe as possible. To this end, students who do not adhere to these measures will be referred to the Principal and may be suspended from the bus, without further warning.

In the event of driver illness, every attempt will be made for a substitute driver to operate the run. However, with a limited number of substitute drivers available, there may be times when a bus route cannot run. We will notify parents as early as possible but in some circumstances, you may receive very short notice. Following Alberta Health Services direction, absences may be for an extended period and routes may not be available during this time. Please download the [Bus Status App](#) to be informed of bus cancellations.

Lastly, routes that were impacted by changes to the Transportation Policy and Procedures including "First on/ First off", route consolidation and routing efficiencies will operate as planned until further notice.

If you have any questions about the Transportation Re-Entry plan, please email transportation@wrps11.ca.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Billy Loiselle", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Billy Loiselle
Transportation Manager