



2020/2021 Transportation User Fees Waived

IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 25, 2021 - The Board of Trustees approved the waiver of all transportation fees for the 2020/2021 school year at the Public Board Meeting on March 24, 2021.

The Board recognized the financial hardship that many families experienced over the last twelve months. Transportation user fees are in place to offer services to our families, and we are happy to provide them as long as there is no impact to the funding that the Division receives for learning from Alberta Education, noted Brenda Rosadiuk, Board Chair and Trustee for the communities of Niton Junction, Wildwood, and Evansview. Because of the ongoing pandemic, the cost of running transportation this year was significantly lower than previous years and lower than last spring's projections, so we can afford to waive the fees for this current school year.

As per Board Policy 17, the Board annually approves transportation user fees to offer a range of unfunded services. Alberta Education provides transportation funding only to school jurisdictions for eligible riders to their designated school. User fees are needed to cover transportation services that are not funded by the province including School of Choice for families who choose to attend a different school from their designated school; Alternate Second Seat for families who request a second seat be held reserved on a different bus; Ineligible for families who live less than 2.4 kms from their designated school; and Transportation out of Division for families who reside within the GYPSD boundary but request transportation to attend school in another school division. In addition to the waiver of user fees for the 2020/2021 school year, the Board also approved a motion to not raise fees for the 2021/2022 school year.

Families who have paid their transportation fees for this school year can expect a refund by the end of April.

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