



SPRING 2018



STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

CONTACTS

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**After Hours
Emergency Busing
Information:**

www.blackgold.ca

**Division Office
Hours**

Mon – Fri
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.



There is a **\$402.00 fine, victim surcharge & 6 demerits** for passing the school bus when red lights flashing and stop arm is extended.

Student Eligibility & Transportation Fees

Please note these are fees for the current school year and are reviewed by the Board of Education in May for the next school year.

Eligible Students – reside more than 2.4 kms from their *designated* school including rural students. Fee listed below.

Ineligible Students – reside less than 2.4 kms from their *designated* school (*Note: Black Gold Regional Schools cannot claim these students for transportation funding*) Fee listed below.

School of Choice Transportation may be available in some cases and can only be confirmed by contacting the Transportation Department. Ineligible fee will apply, and meeting a bus may be required. Noon hour transportation is not available.

2.4 Km Distance - per Alberta Education funding parameters, is the shortest distance from the student's residence to the designated school, which includes walkways, sidewalks, ditches, parkways, roadways, etc. Driving a vehicle the distance will not show the correct distance from the residence to the school. Black Gold Regional Schools has an electronic routing system which is accurate to within a metre and that distance is used to determine eligibility. **NOTE:** *Whenever new walkways, subdivisions or roads are built or connected, it will change the 2.4 km distance to some areas depending upon the shortest pathway to the school.*

Scan Cards and GPS: *All school buses operating for Black Gold Schools students are equipped with GPS and student scan cards. Students are expected to scan their card getting on and off the bus. If a student does not have their card on them, they will be asked to bring it the next day and a phone call home will be the next step. Never will a child be left alone at a stop because they do not have a scan card on them.*

First Ride Program: *This program was started in the summer of 2016 and was well received by the parents and students. It is offered in a 2 hour session facilitated by a transportation expert, teaching the ins and outs of school busing to your child in an interactive, entertaining format. Registration for the First Ride program will be in June and the form will be made available to you.*

Urban (In-town) Busing

Please note the following regarding Urban (in-town busing):

- Transportation is not door-to-door but stops are set and students are required to be at the stop 5 minutes ahead of stop time. Parents are responsible for student supervision at the bus stop.
- If students are not at the stop, the driver will assume the student is not attending or the parent is taking the student to school.
- As the driver will not know if the student has been picked up by parents due to appointments or other reasons, they will not be aware of who is riding home until the students get on the bus. Therefore, students are responsible to get to their bus after school and will be assisted by their teachers.
- **At the end of the day at the bus stop, a parent or guardian is to meet the child at the bus.**

Q & A - REGISTRATION FOR URBAN (In-town) BUSING

When do I register my child for busing?

Parents may login to PowerSchool to pay the fee and then a scan card will be mailed out to the home address as of June 1st. If you do not have a login, please contact the school your child will be attending.

How can I make payment of the transportation fee?

Login to PowerSchool parent portal and choose to add the bus fee to your cart. The \$30 scan card fee is due immediately to generate the bus scan card, the balance of the fee can be paid in installments up to February 1st of the next year. Please add your caregiver arrangements, if this applies. For students who are not eligible for transportation to their school ie: if there is no bus or you reside (or your caregiver address is) too close to the school, you will be contacted by the transportation department.

When do I know if my child will get a bus pass?

If the fee is paid for the fall, prior to July 15th, you will receive the scan card in the mail mid-August. If the payment is received later than August 1st, the scan card will be mailed out as quickly as possible or sent to the school for pick up.

How do I know where my child will catch the bus?

When the bus pass is mailed, a link will be sent to you to access the data online with a log in. You must have your student's ID number which is found in PowerSchool.

What do I do if my child loses his/her scan card?

There is a \$15.00 replacement fee and cards are available for purchase on your PowerSchool parent portal. The card will then be sent to the school for pick up.

Check out our website: www.blackgold.ca Parent tab and then Transportation for more information.

Transportation Fees

Student Ineligible for funding
(residence is less than 2.4 km home to designated school)
\$300.00**
Maximum of \$750.00 per family

School/program of choice (must contact the Transportation Department to determine if it is a possibility). Ineligible fee will apply and student may be required to meet a bus within the designated attendance area.

Replacement of scan card (lost or missing card) \$ 10.50

Students may not access a school bus without a scan card.

To pay transportation fees:

Go to your PowerSchool login. Add busing to your cart and the fee will be shown. You may change the fee when you checkout to a lower amount and pay the balance at any time prior to the end of January.

If you are new to our schools please contact the school to get a login for PowerSchool.

If you do not know which school your child should be enrolled in for the fall, you may contact our transportation department for more information at 780-955-6025.

Once your transportation fee is paid, the department will mail out the scan card to your home address.
Allow enough time over the summer for this to take place.