

**Board of Education
School District #60 (Peace River North)
Parent Transportation Information Bulletin**

Please be advised that to date the Board of Education (School District #60) has been unable to convince the Ministry of Education to reverse the loss of funding for transportation. Therefore, as of September 2014, the ridership fee previously discussed will be implemented based on the number of children in the family as follows:

FEE SCHEDULE

	1 Student	2 Students	3 or more Students
If paid <u>before</u> July 15, 2014	\$200	\$400	\$500
If paid <u>after</u> July 15, 2014	\$250	\$500	\$625

Discounted rates if paid by July 15, 2014 are based on the attempt to minimize any hardship. In so doing, the fee basically represents approximately \$1.10 per school day for each of the first two children in the family, 55 cents per day for the third child, and no fee for any additional children. Once again, it is important to note that a Fort St. John student transit bus pass is currently \$35 per month, which equates to \$350 for each child in a family for each year.

The potential funds generated by a fee for service structure will address the shortfall of \$750,000 by approximately \$400,000. Staff will continue to develop and implement efficiency strategies to achieve the balance of savings required. This will require the understanding that the district will not be able to meet all of the traditional transportation expectations we have taken for so long as the norm. By working together it is hoped that we may mitigate many of the difficulties and hardship that these actions may cause. The Board will continue to meet with the Ministry and local governments to investigate alternative sources of funding.

IMPLEMENTATION

Fee Collection:

1. Registration and fees will be collected at the **school offices** from May 26 to June 20, 2014. Payments may be made by cheque, Visa, or Mastercard only.
2. The **Board Office** will be available for payment and registrations from May 26 to July 15, 2014. Payments may be made by cheque, Visa, Mastercard, or cash.
3. The **Board Office** will again open for registration and fee collection from August 18, 2014 onward.
4. **Full payment is due at time of registration.** Yearly fees are calculated per student and not determined on a per-month basis. Fees collected help offset the shortfall for that school year and only represent a small portion of the total cost, therefore no refunds will be issued.

Bus Runs:

Bus runs will be established based on the registered riders as of *July 15, 2014*. If space is available, riders who register after that date will need to make arrangements to the designated pick up locations established through the earlier registrations.

Bus runs will be determined to minimize cost and maximize efficiency in order to set reasonable fees. Please recognize that door-to-door service is not possible, however pick up locations, as determined by July 15, 2014 registrations will attempt to address student needs as best as possible.

Payment Options and/or Waived Fees:

Families requesting alternate payment plans or who face extreme hardship may apply in writing to the Secretary/Treasurer at 10112 – 105 Avenue, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4S4 or by email ireimer@prn.bc.ca by June 30, 2014 in order to be considered. A confidential follow up may be required by a designated staff member.