



## TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

### September 2024 Newsletter

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Welcome to the first edition of the monthly RVS Transportation Newsletter, we hope that you enjoyed a relaxing and re-invigorating summer break! Each month we will feature timely news and information relevant to RVS Transportation Users. Watch for the newsletter by the 15th of each month. Please also check out the Transportation page on the RVS website at [https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/schools/busing\\_transportation](https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/schools/busing_transportation) for other useful information and links.

### Bus Passes

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Bus passes for students new to the school bus service will arrive by mail in the coming weeks. If your student(s) rode the bus last year, please remember to retain their bus pass(es) as a new one will not be issued automatically. Replacements for lost passes can be purchased online through the School Engage portal or in person at our service counter located in the RVS Education Centre.

Bus pass pouches are too bulky to be sent in the general mail therefore, they will be delivered to your student(s) directly via their bus driver.

## Requests - Processing Times

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We are currently still focusing on processing new registrations and adding students to bus routes. In the month of October, we will re-assess routes for efficiencies, and we will begin to process any parent requests for route/stop changes. We thank you for your patience during this busy time.

All current stops that are in place have been audited for safety and approved by our Safety Coordinator. Getting to and from bus stops is a parent/guardian responsibility.

## Route/Stop Change Requests

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Please do not request route/stop changes directly with your bus driver. All requests must be made through the RVS Transportation Department. If you would like to request a change, please submit it to the [Transportation Ticketing System](#), after we review your request, you will receive a written response with the decision.

Please note that bus stop locations are selected with passenger safety and route efficiency as priorities. Stop locations occasionally change as a result of new students applying for access to school busing, and thus we cannot guarantee that a stop was conveniently located for one family last year will be available in the same place.

## Cancellation Reminder

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Full fee refunds are available if you cancel service by completing the 'Cancellation Form' prior to October 31, 2024.

To complete the cancellation form, access your School Engage account, click on the 'Students' tab on the left-hand side, and select your child's name. The 'Cancellation Form' will populate in the list of forms. A separate 'Cancellation Form' must be completed for each student.

## Permissible Items

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School bus contractors will try to accommodate students with the transportation of articles and equipment for extra-curricular activities. However, some items will not be able to be transported due to safety and/or available space. All permissible items must be tightly secured and/or safely contained within the bus seat. Additionally, they must not impede the aisle, emergency exits or the driver's line of sight (i.e. block the window). The bus driver reserves the right to refuse any item they may deem unsafe to transport. If you are unsure if an item will be permitted, please submit a ticket to Transportation for assistance.

Permissible items include:

- Backpacks and lunch containers
- Textbooks and school supplies
- Small school projects or dioramas
- Small band instruments
- Skates or sport balls, enclosed in a canvas bag

Students are prohibited from smoking, vaping or using e-cigarettes while being transported on the school bus.

Additional non-permissible items include:

- Drugs or alcohol
- Weapons of any kind
- Fuel, matches and/or lighters
- Laser pens
- Any other item that may pose a threat to other passengers

If your child has a change to their mobility or medical needs that may be a safety concern on the bus, please contact Transportation to discuss how we can accommodate them.

## **Second/Final Payment Due**

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A reminder to parents who have chosen the 50/50 payment option for October 1st, this will automatically be processed on the card you provided for the first payment.

## **Upcoming Closures**

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Please note that the Rocky View Education Centre will be closed September 30th for observance of the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation. Both RVS and CCSD bus routes will not be operating on this date.

### Rocky View Schools:

September 30th - No classes for National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

October 11th - Professional Learning Day

October 14th - Thanksgiving Day

Catholic Schools:

September 27th - Parent/Teacher Conferences Grades K-9

September 30th - No classes for National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

October 11th - Professional Growth Day K-12

October 14th - Thanksgiving Day

**For more information  
please visit our [website](#)**