



## TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

### **Be Brave Event**

Reminder, we have an upcoming "Be Brave" event, which will take place on February 26, 2025. With an estimated 15,000+ attendees from Calgary and area, please be aware that the event may cause some afternoon busing delays. Given the high expected turnout, we recommend considering a backup plan for your family. We appreciate your understanding and support as we provide this valuable experience for our students.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## **Real-time Tracking with New Bus App**

Thank you to everyone who has created a WheresTheBus account and started using the app to track your child's bus! We are excited to fully transition to this new tool this spring. WheresTheBus will replace the current Bus Status App, which will no longer be available effective March 6.

WheresTheBus provides parents/guardians and schools with timely arrival and location information for our fleet of contracted buses. It is free, secure and easy to use. This tool uses GPS and tablets installed on school buses to track

and report the real-time location of the bus and estimated arrival times. Please make sure your student still arrives 5 minutes before the pick-up time.

Please note, due to bus shortages and route substitutions, there may be occasions where tracking on your bus is not up-to-date. RVS is working with our contractors to ensure the accuracy of our WheresTheBus data.

To create your account, you will need your student's PowerSchool number, which can be found on PowerSchool (for RVS families), Fee Statement (for Catholic families), or by contacting your school. More information about WheresTheBus including how to create your account, use the app and frequently asked questions is available on the RVS website.

For assistance with WheresTheBus, pleas submit a service request ticket through the RVS Transportation Portal.

#### **Inclement Weather**

School buses do not typically run in the mornings when the temperature is at or lower than -40 degrees Celsius without wind chill. When the weather is severe, or road conditions are hazardous, certain bus routes may be cancelled. However, this does not necessarily mean schools are closed. Once student transportation has begun, a school will not close until regular dismissal time.

In the event that morning transportation needs to be cancelled due to weather conditions, announcements will be made through the local radio stations, updated on the Bus Status App and WheresTheBus Portal, and communicated to RVS families through the SMS service is you have opted in (this service is currently not available for CSSD families). Afternoon service cancellations will be re-evaluated throughout the morning and then updated on the Bus Status App(or WheresTheBus Parent Portal) by noon, should a route be cancelled.

Bus contractors update delays over 10 minutes on the Bus Status App.

More information is available on our **Inclement Weather** page.

It is important NOT to leave your child at the bus stop in severe weather for any period of time.

Cold Weather Tips:

- Stay with your child at the bus stop until they have been picked up or have a back-up plan in place.
- Dress your child in warm, insulating layers close to their body, with wind and waterproof layers on the outside. Keep their head covered.
- Cover exposed areas such as fingers, cheeks, ears, and nose. Consider sending your child with spare gloves and a hat just in case!

## **Daylight Savings - Spring Forward**

Just a reminder - March 9, 2025, at 2:00am the time will 'Spring Ahead' by 1 hour. Don't forget to change your clocks for Monday morning!

# **Upcoming School Closures**

**Rocky View Schools:** 

Family Day (No Classes): February 17

Vacation (No Classes): February 18

Vacation (No Classes): February 19

Teachers' Convention (No Classes): February 20

Teachers' Convention (No Classes): February 21

Professional Learning Day (No Classes): March 10

Catholic Schools:

Family Day (No Classes): February 17

Professional Growth Day K-12 (No Classes): March 7

For more information please visit our website

Rocky View Schools Transportation Department