

household, can we get busing from both homes?

A - WCPS is obligated to use one bus stop only. This is typically based on the parent's address that has been register at the school. Drivers are not allowed to make exceptions or special arrangements.

Q - What happens when the roads are bad or if the school is closed?

A - If Wolf Creek schools are closed or buses are not operating parents will receive notification via an automated dialer. The automated dialer will send messages out to parents based on the phone numbers and e-mail addressed provided to the school. Text message will be sent if parents have signed up to be notified in this manner. Check the WCPS website and listen to local radio stations for school and bus cancellations.

If specific routes are cancelled or delayed, this information will be available on the WCPS website. Decisions will be made as to what is in the best interest for the safety of our students and staff. Parents have every right to keep their children home or pick them up early if they do not feel the weather or road conditions are safe.

Q - I live in town and I only want to pay for busing when it's cold, how much would it be?

A - You would be charged for the entire year. This is because you would be reserving a seat on the bus for the entire year.

Q - My family is moving, how do we get our busing transferred to our new address?

A - To have your transportation changed you must re-register your children and note in the comment area that you are moving. Please give Transportation Services as much notice as possible when requesting a change and keep in mind that user pay fees may come into effect and your student may be waitlisted for a seat if it is a user pay area.

Q - Who needs to register for busing?

A - All students who are new to busing must register. This means all rural kindergarten students and anyone who is new to the busing areas. High school students who are going from Blackfalds to Lacombe must also register. All urban (town) students must re-register every year. User pay seats are not guaranteed from year to year. Note: We do not provide transportation for Pre-K students.

Q - When can I register for the next school year?

A - Registration for the 2017-2018 school year opens **April 1, 2017** and the deadline is **June 15, 2017**.

DISCLAIMER

This document applies to transportation of students to Wolf Creek Schools only.

This document does not and can not address every situation. If you have further questions please feel free to view the policies on our website or you may call or e-mail the WCPS Transportation Services Office.

Policies and procedures may change without notice.

Wolf Creek Public Schools Transportation Services

A, 4900 - 54 Street
Ponoka AB T4J 1N8

WCPS - Ponoka #

403-783-3473 or 403-783-5441 ext. 1335

WCPS - Lacombe #

403-782-8726 ext. 1335

WCPS - Red Deer #

403-341-4153 ext. 1335

Direct Line

403-785-0726

E-mail

transportation@wolfcreek.ab.ca

Website

<http://www.wolfcreek.ab.ca/Transportation.php>



Wolf Creek Public Schools
Creating Success For All Learners

Transportation Services

SCHOOL BUSING INFORMATION



2017-2018

GENERAL BUSING FAQ's

Listed are some commonly asked questions. To view the complete School Board policies regarding busing please visit our website at www.wolfcreek.ab.ca/Transportation.php

Q - How do I get my child on the bus?

A - You must register your child for busing. Because a child is registered for school does not mean they are registered for busing. To register your child go to the WCPS website and click on Busing and then on the Online Busing Form www.wolfcreek.ab.ca/BusingApplication.php

If you live in town you will be asked for your complete civic or street address plus mailing address. If you live in the country you must provide both the full legal land description and the full blue sign (911) address, including the Township or Range Road.

Failure to provide full and accurate information will delay the process.

Q - How will I know if my child is approved for busing?

A - When you click submit on the application you will receive an automated e-mail saying that the application has been received. After your application has been downloaded and processed you will receive an e-mail from Transportation Services indicating if your application has been accepted or denied—depending on when you register this could take until mid to late August. Registrations are processed in the order that they are received.

Q - Which towns in WCPS has urban busing?

A - Urban busing is available in Lacombe, Ponoka and Blackfalds.

Q - What is the cost?

A - There is no cost for rural (country) bus students. Most urban (Blackfalds, Lacombe & Ponoka) students fall into a user pay category if they live less than the current 2.4 kms cut-off from school. The fee is reviewed annually by the School Board and posted on the Transportation webpage. The distances are calculated using our transportation software using Alberta Education guidelines.

Q - I live in town, how do I pay for busing?

A - When your child is approved for busing you will get an e-mail. The e-mail will contain instructions for payment and a link to our online payment system. A payment plan arrangement or full payment is expected prior to your child being granted access to a bus. Payment can be in the form of Visa, MasterCard or E-Cheque. No cheques allowed. The payment plan option is available only to those parents who register early. A family rate is also available. All fees are paid online.

Q - Do I have to register every year?

A - Rural busing students are not required to register every year unless you move or have a child just starting school. Urban (town) bus students must register each and every year.

Q - Is my child guaranteed a seat?

A - We are obligated to transport rural students and eligible urban students who live farther than the School Board designated distance of 2.4 km. User pay students are only accepted if the fees are up to date and there is room on the bus.

Q - Do I get door to door pickup?

A - Town buses stop at pre-determined collection points along their appointed routes. Rural students get picked up at or near their driveway. The exception to this are Cross Boundary students.

Q - What is a Cross Boundary student?

A - Cross Boundary students are students who go to a school outside of their designated area. Schools in Wolf Creek have boundary or catchment areas and students in a particular boundary area normally attend the school in that area. Cross Boundary students must be approved by both school's principals and then if approved by the schools, parents must apply for busing. Transportation Services will determine if there is space available on a bus and what stop the student will meet the bus at. Parents then complete the Cross Boundary application. Students are expected to meet a bus at an existing stop in their preferred school's area. If space is not available on a bus, WCPS is not obligated to make room on a bus for Cross Boundary students.

Q - I would like my child to go to a French Immersion school, is this possible.

A - WCPS is not obligated to transport students to French Immersion schools if they do not live within that school's catchment area. French Immersion catchment areas are the Lacombe and Blackfalds jurisdictions only. In some cases, a Cross Boundary situation may apply and in some cases it is not possible.

Q - Can my child bring friends home on the bus?

A - Guest riders are allowed in emergency situations only. A note to the driver from both families is necessary and only if there is room on the bus. Text messages and e-mails cannot be substituted for a note. Drivers are not allowed to make exceptions or special arrangements. Asking them to do so puts them in a bad position.

Q - We share custody of our children and they spend one week at one household and one week at the other