



## Helpful suggestions for families

- If children have never been on a bus, or if the route is new, parents should make sure children know where to get on and get off of the bus.
- Students should label their clothing and backpacks for easy identification.
- Parents should develop a plan for their children to follow if they miss the bus. A parent/guardian is required to escort Kindergarten and Grade 1 children to and from the bus.
- Ensure children are dressed appropriately for weather conditions in case the bus is delayed.
- On days when weather conditions are poor, parents will receive an automated phone notification on bus cancellations. Please note that the phone number provided on the Transportation Application Form (Synervoice) for the automated system will be the number that is called. Parents can also...
  - Listen to local radio stations and watch local t.v. stations when district-wide cancellations are in place.
- Always have an alternate plan in place during inclement weather. Students should not wait more than 10 minutes at their bus stop.
- For more information on our inclement weather policy, please visit our website.

## Busing and your child

The purpose of the school bus is to transport students safely between home/daycare and school. Personalized bus passes are issued to students traveling between home/daycare and school only.

If a student's busing needs change, alternate arrangements can be made by logging into the Parent Portal at <https://transportation.gsacrd.ab.ca> under the forms tab. Please fill out the appropriate form or contact the transportation office at (780) 459-7711 to make any changes. Please provide at least five days notice.

If difficulties such as disciplinary concerns on a bus occur, parents should contact the school their child attends. The school, often in conjunction with District office, can resolve most problems. If your bus is experiencing delays, please contact Transportation directly between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or the contractor outside of office hours. Contractor numbers can be found on your child's Parent Portal.

## Be cool...follow the rules!

- Be on time
- Never run to or from the bus
- Stand back from the curb
- Don't push or shove
- Stay in your seat
- Don't yell or shout
- Always obey the driver

### For more information, contact us

6 St. Vital Avenue St. Albert,  
Alberta, Canada T8N 1K2

T: 780.459.7711  
F: 780.458.3213

[gsacrd.ab.ca](https://gsacrd.ab.ca)

# TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

We are pleased to offer yellow bus service in St. Albert, Morinville and Legal.

## Getting to school safely

Close to half of our student population in the District ride a bus to and from school. Children ride buses under a bus-pass system. School bus walk-boundaries determine eligibility to ride.

Drivers and buses contracted by Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools (GSACRD) are all licensed and inspected to meet the standards set by Alberta Transportation.

GSACRD requests the support of parents and the cooperation of students to ensure that riding on school buses is a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

### Courtesy at the bus stop

It is important for students to be courteous and considerate of each other at the stop and on the bus. On occasion, some stops have had to be moved to ensure safety of all children. Please be aware of the following guidelines:

1. Bus departure times are provided on the Parent Portal. Students should plan to arrive at their stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to depart.
2. A parent or caregiver is encouraged to accompany students to and from bus stops.
3. Students must respect the property of homeowners by walking and standing on the sidewalk and not on peoples lawns or driveways.
4. Littering is prohibited.

### When will I get my bus pass?

*Students will be allowed to ride 3-5 busing days AFTER the application and payment is received at the Transportation office.*

*Register early!*



## Enjoying your bus ride

### Student conduct on buses

A safe ride depends on the bus driver being able to give his/her full attention to watching the road. Distractions and disturbance make it increasingly difficult for drivers to concentrate on safely transporting students to and from school.

Students riding on the bus must remember that they will be held accountable for their conduct on the school bus. Continued violation of any of these rules may lead to the loss of riding privileges.

1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and his/her directions must be obeyed.
2. The driver will report any misconduct to the school principal, who will take appropriate action.
3. Students must always scan their bus pass every day to board their assigned bus, and are only permitted to ride the bus they are registered to.
4. The driver may assign specific seats to students at any time. Kindergarten and Grade 1 students sit in the front seats.

## Student conduct on buses

5. Students must not extend arms or heads out of windows, try to get on or off the bus, or move around within it while the bus is in transit.
6. Students must not throw paper or other waste materials on the floor or out of the windows of the bus.
7. While on the bus, students must conduct themselves in a quiet and courteous manner, showing consideration for the comfort and safety of others.
8. Scuffling, fighting, eating, drinking, smoking and the use of obscene language on the bus are prohibited.
9. Students causing wilful damage to a bus will be held fully accountable.
10. Articles that cannot be stored in a gym bag or backpack, such as snow skis, skateboards, tubas, hockey sticks, guitars, etc., will not be transported. Parents are responsible for the transportation of these items. Ice skates are to be in a gym bag or backpack with the blades covered. A plastic or paper bag is not acceptable.
11. Loose articles such as baseballs, golf balls or marbles cannot be transported on the bus. If a student wants to bring these types of articles to school, the articles must be securely contained within a gym bag or backpack. Coat pockets or cloth sacks are not acceptable.
12. No animals will be transported on a bus unless a service animal.
13. No firearms or knives will be transported.
14. Students should go directly home from the bus stop at night.
15. Kindergarten and Grade 1 students must be met by a parent/guardian, in the safety zone, at the bus stop, in order to be let off the bus.