



# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIVISION TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

2024/2025

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division partners with Southland Transportation Ltd. and Lethbridge School Division to provide school bus transportation services for students travelling to our Lethbridge schools.

We are currently working to implement the recent changes announced by the Government of Alberta regarding eligibility, distances, and funding for September 1, 2024. For the 2024/2025 school year, the school division will not be charging transportation fees for government-funded eligible riders.

To assist with planning and ensure sufficient space on busses, riders will be **REQUIRED TO REGISTER** Before June 28, 2024 in order to access transportation services for the 2024/2025 school year.

## ELIGIBILITY AND FEES

### Eligible - No Fee Required

The following eligible riders may access transportation for no fee:

- Kindergarten to Grade 6 students within the school division's boundaries who reside 1 km or more from their designated school.
- Grade 7 to 12 students within the school division's boundaries who reside 2km or more from their designated school.
- Grade 7 to 9 students living north of Crowsnest Trail and between **1.0** and **2.0** km from St. Francis Junior High School.
- Students accessing a Fine Arts Program of Choice under the following circumstances:
  - They are a K-6 student living inside the boundary of The Children of St. Martha School or Father Leonard Van Tighem School who requires transportation to St. Patrick Fine Arts School.
  - They are a Grade 7-9 student living in the Father Leonard Van Tighem Junior High School attendance zone, who attended Grade 6 at St. Patrick Fine Arts Elementary in the prior school year, and wishes to continue with a Fine Arts Program of Choice by attending St. Francis Junior High School.

### Eligible - Fee Paying

Students are eligible to ride the bus for a fee under the following conditions:

- They are a Kindergarten to Grade 6 student attending Father Leonard Van Tighem School who require after-school child care at Children of St. Martha School, providing space is available on existing routes.

#### **Fees for the 2024/2025 school year:**

- \$25.00/month/student to a maximum of \$75.00/month/family.
- The school will assign fees to your School Cash Online Account once registration is verified.

### **ADDITIONAL TRANSPORTATION NOTES :**

- *Transportation services are provided to school at the beginning of the school day and from school at the end of the school day to the student's primary residence. Students are not permitted to ride the bus to a friend's or relative's house, daycare, parent's workplace, etc....*
- *The Transportation Coordinator utilizes Government approved software to calculate the distance that a student lives from their designated school. This official distance informs both eligibility and funding.*

# REGISTRATION FOR TRANSPORTATION

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To assist with planning and ensure sufficient space on busses, all riders will be **REQUIRED TO REGISTER BEFORE JUNE 28, 2024** in order to access transportation services during the 2024/2025 school year.

Families of eligible students should receive an email asking them to complete an online *Transportation Registration Form* in SchoolEngage. If you don't receive an email, please contact your child's school directly to confirm your eligibility and arrange for a form to be assigned to you.

## To access your SchoolEngage Account:

### ***For Current Families who already have access to PowerSchool***

1. Log into PowerSchool. If you need help logging into PowerSchool, please contact your child's school directly.
2. Once you are logged in, click on the "School Engage" option on the bottom left corner of the screen.
3. Select the "Student" tab on the top-left side of the screen. Then select the name of the student you are registering for transportation services.
4. The *Transportation Registration Forms* will appear under the Forms section. Select the "Open" button next to the appropriate form.
5. Complete and submit the form.

### ***For New Families who don't yet have access to PowerSchool:***

1. Log into School Engage using the email address and password that you created when you registered your child in our system.
2. Select the Student tab on the top-left side of the screen, then select the name of the student you are wishing to register for transportation services.
3. The Transportation Registration Forms will appear under the Forms section. Select the "Open" button next to the appropriate form.
4. Complete and submit the form.

Completed *Transportation Registration Forms* will be reviewed and verified. Once verified, a confirmation notice will be sent.

The school division is committed to providing transportation to students who register for service before **June 28, 2024**. Please be aware that, riders who do NOT register by **June 30, 2024** will NOT be eligible to receive bus service in the 2024/2025 school year.

Bus route information for the upcoming school year is expected to be available in mid to late August and may be found on Southland's Lethbridge webpage at:

<http://www.southland.ca/lethbridge>.

Families will also have the opportunity to use Southland Transportation Ltd.'s GPS tracking service app, "MyBusStop," which provides real-time information about bus location, route stops, schedules, and possible delays. For more information, and to find your school's code, visit

<https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/schools/transportation/mybusstopapp>.