

Ecole Saint Mary Transportation Guidelines

There seems to be a lot of confusion in regards to who can be transported to a specific school within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division. Information can be found on the HSRCSR #4 web site, <http://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/>, in the Administrative Procedures (found under the 'Resources & Publications' tab).

Ecole Saint Mary is one of four elementary schools that serves students who live east of the Oldman River. Its attendance boundary, as found in Administrative Procedure 302, is defined as "South of Crowsnest Trail to 10th Avenue S and East of the river to the city limit AND all elementary French Immersion students." The students who fit into this definition complete one portion of 'residency' and Ecole Saint Mary is then their **designated** school.

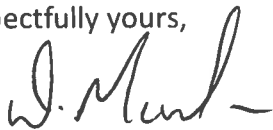
As per transportation, K-6 students living 2.4 km and farther from their **designated** school as calculated by walking routes will be permitted to ride the bus at no cost. K-6 students who attend their **designated** school and live between 1.2 km and 2.4 km from their school may be permitted transportation on an existing route for a user fee.

A school may, at its discretion and in consultation with the guardians, choose to accept a student who is not in their designated boundary. However, transportation is not at the discretion of the school; it is restricted by the afore mentioned. On the other hand, should a student be directed to a school for programming, transportation would be provided. In the event that a family should move during the course of the school year, the student should attend their designated school.

One way that schools can ensure that all of its parents are aware of the guidelines is by having them sign a 'Transportation Policy'. Traditionally, parents were asked to sign this document only if their child attended a school outside of their designated boundary. We are asking that all of our Ecole Saint Mary parents sign this document as there are a number of situations that may be unique to our community: a student who transfers out of French Immersion, a student who wishes to be in the English program but may have a sibling in the French Immersion, a family that moves in the middle of the school year, a student who may have siblings that attend St. Francis Junior High (the only Catholic junior high east of the Oldman River) and/or Catholic Central High School.

If you have any questions in regards to transportation and how it may impact your family, feel free to contact me at the school (403) 327 – 3098.

Respectfully yours,



Dan Monaghan
Principal