**MEMO**

**To:** Parents/Guardians

**From:** Cheryl Shimbashi, Transportation Coordinator

**Date:** August 19, 2021

**Re:** In-Eligible Student Rider Reminder

Under the provisions of Section 59(1) of the *Education Act* it states that "subject to the regulations, a board must provide for the transportation of a student to and from the site of the school in which the board has enrolled the student if

1. The student resides within the attendance area established by the board for the schools
2. The student resides within the boundaries of the school division, and
3. The criteria, if any, set out in the regulations are met"

The criteria in (c) is established in *Student Transportation Regulation 96/2019* of the *Education Act,* and it states "the student must **reside at a distance of at least 2.4 kilometers** from the site of the school."

The board reviews availability on the buses after the 3rd week of September each school year for in-eligible students (students who are under 2.4 kms from their boundary school). Upon review, if space is available, a student may be allowed to ride the bus as long as space is not required for students who are eligible for transportation.

Please note, permission is only granted to in-eligible students after the third week of September for each school year and is not automatically granted into the next school year.

**If your child is in-eligible for transportation for the 2021-2022 school year, please note the procedure as outlined below:**

1. At the beginning of the school year, you may call my office and request that your child/children be placed on a waiting list. I receive a high volume of calls during this time, so please leave a message with your request. It could take several days for me to return any calls that require a response, however, please note that all requests will be recorded and may not need a return call. Email requests will also be accepted.
2. Space availability will be reviewed during the 3rd week of September.
3. Parents are welcome to call my office during the 4th week of September to see if there is space for their child/children. Preference will be given to students whose distance from their school is the furthest.
4. If your child/children are granted access to the bus, you will need to sign the required acknowledgement paperwork, which is available at your child’s school or at the Board Office. Once that has occurred, the school and Southland will be advised, and your child/children will then be given a bus pass.

If you have any further questions or concerns, I may be contacted at 403-380-5303 or cheryl.shimbashi@lethsd.ab.ca

Cheryl Shimbashi

Transportation Coordinator