



Attention: All Parents

Date: August 25, 2021

From: Student Transportation of Peel Region

Subject: Welcome Back Parents/Guardians & Students to the 2021/22 School Year!

Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) plans and implements all aspects of home to school student transportation for both the **Peel District School Board** and the **Dufferin-Peel District Catholic District School Board**.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to a new school year and provide you with the following transportation information.

Bus Route Information:

STOPR staff have been busy working during the summer months preparing bus routes for September.

Please note that effective **Monday August 30**, Parents/Guardians can go onto the STOPR website www.stopr.ca to access their bus route information. Click on "Student Transportation" and create an account for your children to access transportation details. You can also sign up to receive automatic notifications of delays or cancellations.

Please double check your transportation details over the Labour day long weekend to check for any updates or changes to your children's transportation.

Staggered School Start this year:

Please take note of the different start dates for our member school Boards this year:

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board:

- Elementary and Secondary classes start Tuesday September 7, 2021

Peel District School Board:

- Elementary and Secondary classes start Thursday Sept 9, 2021

STOPR Website and Twitter:

Be sure to follow us on twitter @STOPRinfo and check out our website www.stopr.ca for the most up to date transportation information including:

- First Time Rider Safety Program Resources
- Transportation Procedures and Forms
- COVID-19 Transportation information and updates
- Transportation Eligibility

COVID-19 Transportation Plan:

STOPR has been working with our member School Boards, Peel Public Health, Bus Operators, and the Ministry of Education to create a back-to-school transportation plan that provides an environment where students, staff and bus drivers can feel safe and the transmission of the COVID19 virus is limited to the best extent possible.

A transportation plan can be found on our web site at www.stopr.ca

Some of the key messages include:

- All students are required to wear a face mask while travelling on the school bus
- All bus drivers must wear their face mask while driving the bus and additional eye protection (face shield/goggles) while loading and unloading students
- Based on recommendations from Peel Public Health, "courtesy seating" has been suspended and will be reassessed as COVID19 protocols evolve over the coming months.
- The front bench seat directly behind the driver will be left vacant unless used for the driver's child. The front bench seat (on the passenger side) will be left vacant where possible.

For further details on our COVID19 transportation plan and to view our COVID19 videos, please check out our website at www.stopr.ca and click on the COVID19 tab.

First Time Rider Program:

Riding the bus for the first time in September?

Be sure to check out our First Time Rider Program available online through our website and watch the on-line "Buzzy the Bee Safety Video" together with your children. You can also download a safety certificate for your children once you have watched the video together.

Riding the school bus is a new experience for many young students and it is important that parents/guardians help their children prepare to ride the school bus safely.

Be sure to download our **"First Time Rider Safety Tips Booklet"** that is especially designed for parents, guardians and students who are new to school busing.

This booklet covers our "Primary Protocol" procedure which has been implemented to enhance the safety of kindergarten and grade one students who are riding the school bus. It also provides important safety tips on waiting at the bus stop, riding the school bus, and picking your children up at the bus stop. Please take the time to review these important student safety resources with your children.



Contacting STOPR:

If you have any questions, please visit our website at www.stopr.ca or contact us at:

Telephone contact: (905) 890-6000

Toll free: 1-800-668-1140

When calling for school bus information, please make sure that you have your child's Ontario Educational Number (OEN) available. The OEN number can be found on your child's report card or is available from your school.

STOPR Call Center staff will ask for your child's OEN to ensure your child's personal transportation information is secure and is shared only with the appropriate person.

STOPR's Mission Statement and Motto:

"Trusted partners in providing safe, reliable, and efficient school transportation that supports student success in every community we serve."

"Connecting Students with Education"

On behalf of everyone at the STOPR Team, "Welcome Back" to a new school year and we look forward to serving your transportation needs.

