



April 28, 2023

What schools receive bus service?

Busing is provided to the following schools in 2023-24

Cedar Elementary

Cedar Secondary

Dover Secondary

Ecole North Oyster Elementary

Frank J Ney Elementary

Gabriola Elementary

John Barsby Secondary

Ladysmith Elementary

Ladysmith Intermediate

Ladysmith Secondary

Mountainview Elementary

Nanaimo District Secondary

Qwam Qwum Stuwixwulh Elem.

Seaview Elementary

Who is eligible for busing?

Transportation is provided free of charge to eligible students in the following categories:

Grades K-3: Students that live in a residence that is located **more than** 4.0 kms from their catchment school.

Grades 4-12: Students that live in a residence that is located **more than** 4.8 kms from their catchment school.

If my child is not eligible for busing, is there a Courtesy Rider option?

Courtesy rider passes may be provided to students who are not otherwise eligible for transportation.

Passes are subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Established routes cannot be altered to accommodate courtesy riders. Students that do not live along the current bus path will have to make their way to the nearest stop.
- 2) The availability of courtesy seats on the bus will be determined after all "eligible" students have been accommodated.

Do I have to register my child every year?

Yes. All families must complete an on-line registration form for each student every year authorizing them to ride the bus. **Registrations are due by the end of June each year.**

When can I register for busing for the 2023-24 school year?

Busing Registration for the 2023-2024 school year will be May 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023. Registrations are done on-line at: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/transportation/>

How does my child receive a bus pass?

Z-Pass cards will be available for pick up at the school in the first week of start up. Students will not be required to have a Z-Pass card prior to distribution, however, your child must be registered as the district must have an up-to-date ridership list. For those students that begin riding after school start up, bus passes will be distributed to them by the bus driver or the school office.

Why does my child need to show a bus pass every day?

It is imperative to maintain an accurate list of students riding the bus for the safety and security of all riders and to adhere to the laws and regulations that apply to the operation of a school bus. Using a bus pass confirms to the driver that the student is registered and authorized to ride the bus. It will enable us to have an accurate record of all students on the bus in case of an emergency, and it will also allow us to monitor the number of students riding the bus so that we can maximize route efficiencies and provide opportunities for more students to ride where space is available.

What happens if my child does not have their bus pass?

Students will be required to obtain a replacement bus pass.

Forgotten Pass: *If the bus pass is forgotten on a given day, the student will be permitted to board the bus by providing their name to the bus driver so their attendance can be recorded. Continued failure to produce a bus pass will be reported to the school principal and the student may be refused to ride.*

Lost Pass: *If a student loses their bus pass, a replacement pass will incur a \$10 fee, payable to the driver by cash or cheque. Students need to report their lost card to the driver or the school office.*

How does my child know where and when to catch the bus?

Route schedules are listed on the district website at: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/transportation/bus-routes/>. All grade 1-12 students may be required to walk up to 3.2 km to the nearest bus stop. Please note that bus routes are subject to change and should be reviewed frequently. Students must be at their bus stop at least 5 minutes before the scheduled pickup time.

What are the Z-Pass Guidelines?

The Z-pass is the property of NLPS for the exclusive use by the student it is assigned to. Each card will have the student's name and school printed on it. Just like a Transit Pass or a bank card the Z-pass should be placed in a secure location in the student's backpack, purse or wallet and be accessible when required. We do supply lanyards to attach the pass to the student's backpack if preferred. It is the responsibility of the student to produce the card every time they ride the bus.

Can my child bring a friend home with them on the bus?

School bus service is intended for Z-Pass card holders. Friends are only permitted on the bus if space is available, and an authorization note from the friend's parent is provided to the driver.

What about students that request accessible busing?

Students that request accessible transportation may be eligible for busing on our accessible buses. Please contact your school principal for more information.

Where can I find more information about bus service?

Information is located on the district website at: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/transportation/>