

## **Fall/Winter Newsletter**

October 2022

**Dear Parents/Guardians:** 

Winter weather is fast approaching. Therefore, it is important that everyone riding a school bus is familiar with STOPR's inclement weather and cancellation procedures.

As part of these procedures, the Region of Peel has been divided into three weather zones as weather conditions may require cancellation in a specific zone or zones. STOPR will monitor weather and road conditions and when it is necessary to cancel transportation due to inclement weather, STOPR will cancel by "weather zone." (i.e., Zone 1, Zone 2 and/or Zone 3)

### How do I find out what weather zone my school is in?

It is important that all families know what weather zone their school is assigned to. Please see weather zone map and weather zone descriptions below.

Also, a complete list of schools and assigned weather zones can be found on our website at <a href="www.stopr.ca">www.stopr.ca</a> by clicking "Inclement weather."

Parents can go to <a href="www.stopr.ca">www.stopr.ca</a> and log into the Parent/Student Portal and set up an account to access their childrens' busing information. This information also includes a "Weather Zone" tab that identifies the assigned weather zone for their childrens' school.

#### How do I know what zone is cancelled?

When transportation is cancelled due to inclement weather, STOPR will cancel by "weather zone" (i.e., Zone 1, Zone 2 and/or Zone 3)

This information will be communicated through the STOPR twitter account @STOPRinfo and posted on the STOPR website by 06:00 am.

# What if I live in a different weather zone than my school?

Most families live within their school's weather zone.

For families who happen to live outside of their school's weather zone, they should review the STOPR weather zone map and confirm what zone their home address is located within.

On inclement weather mornings, these families will need to monitor the STOPR website for both their "school weather zone" and "home weather zone" for cancellations.

For families who live outside their "school weather zone," their transportation will be cancelled if either their "school weather zone" cancels <u>or</u> their "home weather zone cancels."



## **Weather Zone Descriptions:**

**Zone #1:** The City of Mississauga

Zone #2: The City of Brampton\*\*

(\*\*South of Old School Road/Healey Road)

**Zone #3:** The Town of Caledon\*\*

(\*\*North of Old School Road/Healey Road)

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When STOPR cancels "School Bus Transportation" for inclement weather, this includes all regular, special needs buses, vans and taxi runs.

If your school bus is cancelled in the morning, due to inclement weather, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon.

# What should you do if your bus is late or cancelled?

It is important to talk to your children about what to do if their school bus is delayed or cancelled on inclement weather mornings.

Do your children have a plan if their bus does not arrive?

Do your children have an emergency contact person (i.e., neighbour, friend, relative etc) who they can call or go to if their bus is delayed or does not arrive to pick them up in the morning.

### **Bus Route Numbers:**

All STOPR bus routes have an assigned route number. This number will be displayed in the side window of your bus.

It is important that you know your child's bus route number, not only to ensure your child is boarding the correct bus each morning, but you will also need the route number when you check for delay or cancellation info on our website.

For more information on STOPR's inclement weather procedures and weather zones, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.stopr.ca">www.stopr.ca</a> and click on "Inclement Weather"

# School bus winter safety tips to help keep your children safe:

- Make sure children are dressed appropriately for cold weather as unexpected mechanical problems with a school bus can occur.
- ✓ Know your bus pickup time in the morning and always arrive at your bus stop at least 5 minutes early. Allow extra time to get to your school bus stop during the winter months.
- ✓ Remember, "we wait for the bus, the bus does not wait for us."
- ✓ Parents/Guardians are responsible for the safe conveyance of their children to and from the bus stop location.
- ✓ Kindergarten and grade one students must always be accompanied to/from their bus stop location.
- ✓ Kindergarten and grade one students must always be met at the bus stop at the end of the day by a parent/guardian or caregiver.



We encourage parents to set up an account with STOPR to access their children's bus information and also receive automatic delay and cancellation alerts. As a subscriber, you can receive alerts by email or SMS text message. Go to <a href="https://www.stopr.ca">www.stopr.ca</a> and click on "Parent/Student login" and click "Create Account."