

# School Bus Delays and Cancellations

[www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca)

Effective January 5, 2009

## "ZONE-based" bus cancellations come into effect January 5, 2009

Student Transportation Services is a transportation consortium for the 4 member School Boards within Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford counties. As a consortium, with all 4 School Boards as equal partners, one change you will notice is that schools are not listed by School Board. Schools are listed in alphabetical order, regardless of School Board affiliation.

Effective January 1, 2009, school bus delays and cancellations will be announced in a "ZONE" format. This new format will allow us to serve you better and make communications easier once everyone has had a chance to become familiar with their Zone location.

Please go to our website for more details. School bus delay and cancellation information is posted here in real time.

Important things to know:

- A "Zone Coordinator" is located in each of the counties and inputs delay/cancellation information on the web.
- Bus delays last for two (2) hours—after 2 hours, the buses either start or are cancelled.
- If buses are cancelled in the morning, there is no afternoon transportation provided.
- If there is a need to send students home early, busing arrangements will



be made as expeditiously as possible. Check the website and listen to the local media.

- If the school bus is delayed or cancelled, you may decide to make alternate transportation arrangements for your student.

***You, the parent/guardian, are ultimately responsible for deciding if it is safe for your student to travel to the bus stop or by school bus during inclement weather.***

## Zone Information

Each County contains Zones:

### Elgin County:

West Lorne Zone, St Thomas Zone, Alymer Zone

### Oxford County:

Ingersoll Zone, Woodstock

Zone, Tillsonburg Zone

### Middlesex County:

Strathroy Zone, Parkhill Zone, Medway Valley Zone, Glencoe Zone, Dorchester Zone, Red Zone, Yellow Zone.

(\*Red and Yellow Zones

are based on unique geographical circumstances. Red and Yellow Zone communications are sent out to affected families annually and the information is posted on the website)

### Inside this issue:

What You Need to Know 2

Role of the Media 2

Find Your Zone 2

If buses within the City of London are delayed or cancelled, that will appear under Middlesex County.

(Individual school names within the City of London are not listed.)

## What You Need to Know

Know the name of your Zone. Find your school on the list on [www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca). Be aware that there may be more than one school with the same name—make sure you have the right county and zone.

When announcements are made referring to a Zone, you will know your student's bus is impacted—regardless of what School Board your student attends.

Example: Buses in the Tillsonburg Zone are delayed for 2 hours due to fog and the student goes to Glendale

High School - his or her bus is delayed by 2 hours, as are buses to all other schools within the Tillsonburg Zone.

If you are not sure if your bus is delayed or cancelled, please go to [www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca) and look at the real-time information posted there.

Do not call Student Transportation Services or the bus company. During inclement weather, these phone lines must be kept open for emergencies. You will be referred to the website—[www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca).

Talk to your bus driver and learn where your student's route starts and ends. Based on the vast geography covered, some routes are very long. Please note that weather conditions can vary greatly from one area to another. Decisions regarding delaying or canceling service are always made with safety in mind.

**You may decide as a parent/guardian to make alternate transportation arrangements on days when buses are delayed or cancelled.**

## Role of the Media

We work cooperatively with our local media partners by providing the information as soon as it becomes available.

**The local media receive the information at the same time as it is posted on [www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca)**

In the event that you do not have internet access, local TV and radio stations may carry bus delay and cancellation information.

Each media outlet will decide how they present the information.

For television viewers, "A" carries school bus delay and cancellation information. For radio listeners, tune into AM 980 or 1290 CJBK. Other local stations may carry the information, too. A list of media outlets are posted on [www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca)

***Did you know? [www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca) is updated by the Zone Coordinator in your area at the time the decision is made. For the most current information, go to the website!***

## Using the Website

Browse to [www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca)

Click on the icon "Bus Cancellations" (on the left hand side of the site)

The page header will read "Delays and Cancellations Links"

Click on the link for your County.

Go to your Zone for information. Delays and cancellation notices will be posted here.

*If there are no delays or cancellations to report, when you click on your County, it will read "All Buses Are Running on Schedule".*



(County Buses) means buses traveling from the county to a school in the City.

**A list of the schools in each zone is available @ [www.mybigyellowbus.ca](http://www.mybigyellowbus.ca) Please check the website to determine your Zone. As of January 5, 2009, all delays & cancellations will be communicated by Zone.**