



Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services

www.mybigyellowbus.ca

School Bus Service for High School Students

The London District Catholic and the Thames Valley District School Boards provide school bus service for high school students who reside greater than 3.2 kms from their board-designated high school. The distance-based computation rests solely with Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services.

The transition from elementary school to high school is an exciting time for you and your student. School bus service levels are different for students in grades 9 – 12 than at the elementary level.

As you prepare for high school next year, school bus information may be an important part of the process. Things to consider:

- Do not assume your student qualifies for bus service. Ask the school secretary to confirm your address or check online at www.mybigyellowbus.ca
- Note: the transportation eligibility tab on the website is for the **current academic year**. The **future academic year** becomes active on the website as of mid-May. Check the site mid-May as there may be changes.
- If your student chooses to register at a school other than his/her board designated school, transportation will not be provided.
- Some school sites may offer specialty programs that qualify for bus service. Confirm program eligibility with the school at the time of registration to avoid disappointment.
- School bus stops are farther away for high school students – they are expected to walk up to 1.6 kms to access a bus stop in residential areas.
- Southwestern Ontario Student Transportation Services assigns your student to a bus based on the electronic student record provided by the school. All registrations and change of addresses must go through the school. High school offices are open all summer long to process this information.
- Bus routes and schedules are planned during the summer. **In order to receive bus service the first week of school, STS must have the electronic registration record for your student by August 1.**
- For those who register late, bussing will not be provided the first week (or longer, depending on volume of late registrants) and the family will be responsible for providing transportation in the interim.

Once a student is assigned transportation, school bus arrangements are posted on line in the Parent Portal at www.mybigyellowbus.ca. To access the Parent Portal, you require the Student ID number from the school. The secretary can provide that number to you once registration is complete. The Parent Portal for the new academic year goes live mid-August.

Important Policy Documents:

Before you contact STS regarding transportation eligibility, familiarize yourself with the following policies on the website:

- Distance-Based Transportation Eligibility
- Exemptions to Distance-Based Transportation Eligibility
- Service Design Standards