

Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan

Subject: FW: Maple Ridge Elementary School, Lantz - CCRCE decision to discontinue busing of pre-primary – grade 6 students who live within 1.6 k of the school..

From: Gary Adams

Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 12:50 PM

Subject: RE: Maple Ridge Elementary School, Lantz - CCRCE decision to discontinue busing of pre-primary – grade 6 students who live within 1.6 k of the school..

Good afternoon Mr. Tingley,

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding transportation.

I am pleased to provide the following updates on progress in our efforts to improve busing service:

- Specific safety concerns (including the area impacted by the new roundabout) are being reviewed in accordance with the process outlined in the Transportation Policy.
- The new Online application process for unassigned seats described in our July meeting is up and running.
- CCRCE Transportation Division will be working with Municipality staff on specific road classification questions that may lead to improved service.
- As discussed during our July meeting, the Operations Director will be scheduling a follow up discussion with East Hants Planning Staff
- We have hired enough drivers to staff all current bus routes and there is a modest number of replacement drivers available. More are currently in training.
- Cameras are being added to all buses. These upgrades will occur on gradual basis as they are scheduled for maintenance.
- Bus Drivers are receiving additional Professional Development to support improved partnership with School Administration related to student behavior on buses.
- We are creating a distribution list for future updates so that elected officials are informed whenever changes are being considered.

We do not have capacity at this time to apply a different standard of eligibility that would shorten the distance criteria.

We recognize that the transition to a more consistent application of bus eligibility criteria has caused an unwelcome change for some. We appreciate the patience and understanding that many folks have demonstrated. The overall goal is to ensure a safe, reliable and consistent service.

Regards,



Gary Adams

Regional Executive Director of Education

Chignecto-Central Regional Centre for Education

I live and work in Mi'kma'ki, the unceded and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

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From: Walter Tingley <wtingley@easthants.ca>

Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 4:17 PM

To: Chantelle E. Paris <ParisCE@ccrce.ca>

Cc: MLA John A. MacDonald <mlahantseast@gmail.com>; rebekah.tingley@sip.ca; Kim Ramsay <kramsay@easthants.ca>; Eleanor Roulston <eroulston@easthants.ca>

Subject: Maple Ridge Elementary School, Lantz - CCRCE decision to discontinue busing of pre-primary – grade 6 students who live within 1.6 k of the school..

You don't often get email from wtingley@easthants.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

Attention: Gary Adams, Regional Director for Education

This email is on behalf of parents in Lantz who are anxious about the Chignecto Central Regional Centre for Education (CCRCE) letter to parents in June stating that pre-primary – grade 6 students who live within 1.6 k of the school *will no longer be considered eligible for busing for the 2023 – 24 school year.*

The safety hazard for Maple Ridge Elementary School children living north of the Lantz roundabout is situational because of the of the roundabout, the interchange, Shaw brick & Pipe trucks, HWY 2, HWY 277 and the high amount of construction and other traffic in the area

Parents have advised that some of the affected children live on the following roads in Lantz.

Towerview Court

Logan Drive

Poplar Drive

Green Road

Frenchy Road

Lloyd Drive

Paley Road

HWY 2

HWY 277

Only one of the above roads has a sidewalk, HWY 2, and only on the east side.

Students living om 6 of the above roads will be required to cross streets and secondary highways, where there is no crosswalk.

All students will be required to cross the roundabout attached to HWY 2, Shaw's Brick & Pipe plant driveway (where many large heavy trucks enter / exit), the Lantz interchange and this is all within a community experiencing significant construction.

There will be increased traffic buses, private vehicles and pedestrians traffic in the confined driveway and parking lot space at Maple Ridge School if many students are driven separately to school by parents.

The municipality cannot install sidewalks, crosswalks, crossing signs and lights and provide crossing guards quick enough or before...

- Confirming all areas where the above assets are required. Communication from CCRCE about this would be helpful.

- Receiving authority from the province of Nova Scotia Public Works to install crosswalks on their roads.
- Establishing a budget and area rates for these assets.
- Sourcing the assets.
- Completing the work.
- Recruiting and training crossing guards.
- Etc.

In light of the increased hazard caused by this decision in this situation, please consider busing pre-primary – grade 6 students who live within 1.6 k of the school.

Thank you for your consideration.

Attached

1. CCRCE letter
2. Some communication received & sent in connection with busing decision.



Walter Tingley
Councillor, Lantz-Milford
District 7
Municipality of East Hants
H 902-883-8078
C 902-497-1332
E wtingley@easthants.ca
W www.easthants.ca



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www.easthants.ca/solid-waste

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