

Dear Parents, Guardians

Thank you all for your support as we transitioned back to school with the implementation of several service changes in early September. We appreciated you sharing your feedback, helping answer parents' questions, and for passing on our communication to your students. In this email, I want to quickly highlight a few updates to our service changes going forward.

- **New Buses** - Saskatoon Transit has started to receive some of our new buses. We are expecting 10 new 40' buses to arrive this September. We are also expecting 10 new 60' articulating buses near the end of September. These new buses will greatly improve our service reliability and ensure that we do not need to cut any high school routes going into the winter months.
- **Introduction of Routes 339 Meadows and 340 Rosewood** – Route 339 was not expected to launch until later in October. However, with our new buses arriving, we have introduced both routes. As of September 8th, Route 339 will service Rosewood Meadows once in the AM and once in the PM.
- **Full Service** – As of September 8th, we are back to full service levels, which includes Routes 325, 336, 339 and 340. With the new additions to our fleet, our hope is that there will be no need for service cuts over the fall and winter terms.
- **Full Buses** – Saskatoon Transit has been actively monitoring its Full Buses via a button push in the bus (at time of a full bus) and through Customer feedback. With additional frequency on several routes such as Route 8, Route 17, and the routes 4/40s we are seeing much fewer full buses this fall in comparison to last year.
- **60' articulating buses and additional capacity** – These larger buses are very useful in providing additional capacity on routes where it isn't feasible to add more frequency or an additional trip. Using our Full Bus data, Saskatoon Transit will be able to add a 60' articulating bus to those routes (ie: Route 340 Rosewood) where students are boarding all at the same time and where the bus is nearing full capacity.
- **Regular frequency & alternative trip plans** – we continue to encourage students to adjust their schedules or try a different route or trip plan if they are finding that their bus is full or not arriving on time. In addition to our high school extras, we continue to support the high schools with regular 30-minute service. In some cases, this frequency is as frequent as 10 minutes.
- **Boarding & Moving to the back of bus** – we always encourage students to have their fare ready, remove backpacks, and to move to the back of the bus to ensure that everyone has a place to sit or stand when boarding.

How You Can Help

We encourage you to share this information with students and families through newsletters, Edsby or other communication channels. Feel free to reach out to me with any further questions you may have about these service changes or feedback you are receiving.

Saskatoon Transit appreciates you as a valued partner in the provision of reliable transit service. Thank you for your continued support in helping students get to school safely and on time.