



## CALGARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

### BILL 1: An Act to Reduce Fees

As you may have heard, the government is reducing fees for specific instructional supplies and materials, as well as transportation fees for students who live 2.4 kilometres or more away from their designated school. The details around these fee reductions are still uncertain at this time and we are working closely with Alberta Education to implement the changes for the 2017/18 school year. We will provide specific information via schools and on the district website at [www.ccssd.ab.ca/Parents/Transportation](http://www.ccssd.ab.ca/Parents/Transportation), once we have more details.

We are advising parents/guardians to apply for transportation now, if you are considering it for your child(ren). If you would like to cancel your child's transportation registration after receiving more specific transportation information on fees and eligibility, you can do so at no penalty by notifying your school by September 30, 2017.

#### Frequently Asked Questions

##### **1. When will the new School Fees regulation be complete?**

- We anticipate that the specific details around the regulation will be provided to school boards in June.
- We will continue to work with Alberta Education to ensure implementation for September 2017.

##### **2. How much can parents expect to save?**

- The amount parents will save as a result of Bill 1 will vary.
- Bill 1 is eliminating fees for the transportation of students who attend their designated school, for regular or special education programs, and live 2.4 kilometres or more away from that school.

##### **3. Will parents still be charged for fees such as lunch-hour supervision fees, technology fees, and field trips?**

- Yes, for at least the 2017/18 school year, these fees **are not** being restricted. Therefore, schools will continue charging these fees for the upcoming year.
- For the 2017/18 school year, the following fees **are** being eliminated:
  - Textbook fees, workbook fees, printing and photocopying fees, paper fees, and common fees, specific to instructional supplies and materials, charged to an entire student body or grade.

##### **4. As a result of these reductions, should students/parents expect to see reductions to educational programs?**

- No. For the 2017/18 school year, the government is providing districts with funding to help offset revenue that will be lost as a result of Bill 1.
- This offsetting funding will help ensure that 2017/18 programming is, at minimum, maintained at previous levels.

##### **5. Which transportation fees can still be charged? Why?**

- The only transportation fee being eliminated is for students who attend their designated school and reside 2.4 kilometres or more from that school.
- This means that school boards may charge fees in other instances, including:
  - The transportation of students to a non-designated school (also referred to as a school/program of choice to attend programs such as French Immersion, Spanish Bilingual and Fine Arts), or
  - The transportation of students who live less than 2.4 kilometres from their designated school.

##### **6. What is a designated school?**

- All students have a designated school that is determined by the attendance area set by the resident school board. In some cases, a designated school may also offer a program of choice.
- Designated schools are usually, but not always, the closest school that offers regular programming to the residence of the student.