



Valhalla School Foundation

Operating Valhalla Community School, Northern Alberta's First Rural Leadership Charter School

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Dear Parents:

Student transportation is an integral part of the education system. The provincial government supports a safe transportation system for approximately 300,000 Kindergarten to Grade 12 students across the province, and they are interested in your opinion. They are listening to families and school boards to make sure they update the student transportation eligibility criteria to make life better for Alberta students.

To share your thoughts and priorities on the student transportation criteria, please fill out the online survey:

<http://surveys.education.gov.ab.ca/novi/TakeSurveyPage.aspx?s=4e79aa9f1ceb4876a0028a5f68792960&tsid=466ad4e7e42444b983ebacbd39322e19&c=en-US>

The survey and written submissions will help determine the potential changes to the distance criteria and mandated service levels and any safety considerations that may be added.

For your information, Valhalla Community School students are transported safely to and from school every day by a dedicated group of bus drivers under the direction of our transportation coordinator. It is worthy of note that the bus drivers and the five buses in our fleet are supported by grants of (approximately) \$890 per student, which leaves our transportation system, like others in the province, seriously underfunded. In addition, as a charter school, we do not receive distance funding and so we are not funded equitably compared to other jurisdictions.

The survey will close on June 15, 2018.

We encourage you strongly to take the survey and express your thoughts.

Thank you for your continued support of Valhalla Community School

Sincerely,

Nancy Westad
Chair, Valhalla School Foundation