

Questions & Answers

ASAP SCHOOLS

Transportation

- Q** My child receives yellow bus service to school for a regular program. I live in the attendance area for an ASAP 2010 school. If I choose to stay at my current school will I still receive yellow bus service to this school after the new school opens?
- A** No, yellow bus service will not be continued to your current school because your neighbourhood is now in the attendance area of a new school.
- Q** I currently reside in the attendance area of an ASAP 2010 school and my child receives transportation to attend an alternative program at another school. Will this transportation continue after the opening of the new school?
- A** Yes, transportation for students enrolled in alternative programs will continue.
- Q** I currently reside in the attendance area of an ASAP 2010 school and my child receives transportation to attend a district centre Special Education class at another school. Will I continue to receive transportation after the opening of the new school?
- A** Yes, transportation to Special Education district centres will continue for those students who are eligible.
- Q** I live in the attendance area for one of the new schools opening in 2010. Will I have yellow bus options?
- A** Transportation to the new schools opening in 2010 will follow the current transportation guidelines. Students residing more than 2.4 km from their neighbourhood school are eligible for yellow bus service.
- Q** How is the 2.4 kilometer distance calculated – by the crow-fly, by driving?
- A** The distance is calculated using the shortest route available to a pedestrian.
- Q** I live more than 2.4 kilometers from the designated school. What type of transportation options will I have?
- A** As per Board Regulation (EEA.AR) – “Edmonton Transit is the preferred means of student transportation”. If ETS meets acceptable standards, it is the preferred and only means of transportation available. If ETS does not meet acceptable standards, yellow school bus options are put in place.

Q **What are the acceptable ETS standards?**

A Acceptable ETS standards are different for various age groups:

- i. Elementary students must be able to travel in less than 60 minutes with no transfers.
- ii. Junior High students must be able to travel in less than 60 minutes with one transfer or less.
- iii. Senior High students must be able to travel in less than 60 minutes with two transfers or less.

Q **How do I apply for yellow school bus service?**

A Yellow bus applications must be submitted to the school office prior to the last business day in May in order to have service in place for the first day of school. Each school may set a deadline slightly earlier than the last day of May. Application forms are available at the school office. Student Transportation reviews and processes the eligible applicants and will make final decisions regarding eligibility.

Q **How do I visit the Student Transportation website?**

A Student Transportation's website can be found at <https://transportation.epsb.net/>

Programming

Q **Am I able to attend a new school if I don't live within the attendance boundary?**

A As Edmonton Public Schools is a district of choice, you may register in any district school during the pre-enrolment process, as long as the school has available space and you meet entrance requirements.

Q **Will there be alternative programs available at the new school?**

A The District is currently monitoring the demand for alternative programs in the new ASAP 2010 schools. You may indicate your request for a specific alternative program on the District website at www.epsb.ca by clicking on the Give us Your Feedback link.

To establish an alternative program in a school many factors must be considered, including sufficient demand to support a viable program and the space available within a school to accommodate students in both regular and alternative programs.

Q **Why are attendance boundaries created?**

A Attendance boundaries are created to ensure that space is available for children within an established school attendance area.

P3 School

Q **Why is the government using the P3 approach to school construction?**

A Public-private partnerships (P3s) will provide value and save money by having one group of contractors design, build, finance and provide maintenance for several schools at once, resulting in efficiencies of scale. P3 projects also provide a guaranteed price and completion date with a 30-year warranty. Payments to the contractor are over the span of 30 years and depend on availability and performance. If the contractor does not perform, they cannot pay the lender. The lender ensures the contractor looks after the school for the full 30 years.

Q **Who will own and operate the new schools?**

A The new schools are owned, controlled and operated by the school boards. Use and access to the new schools will be managed in the same way that existing schools manage these functions.

Q **What is a core school design?**

A Core schools are designed with a permanent central space that includes a gymnasium, library, administration offices, classrooms, specialty classrooms, such as a music room, art room and Career and Technology labs. In response to changes in enrolment, steel-framed modular classrooms can be added and removed as required.

Q **Will the school design include non-educational partner space?**

A No. This pilot project will accommodate student learning spaces only. However, school boards are free to arrange, through their joint-user agreements, requests for outside groups to utilize school space.