

Your Questions Answered: Transportation/Bussing of Students - from Spadina Fort York and Toronto Centre to Dundas PS

Virtual Joint Ward Forum: Wards 9, 10 & 15. Monday February 24, 2025 6:00 pm via Zoom.

[Meeting Presentation](#)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1asNZbMrioamr9pVN9AAer6cgWQ5isCij/view?usp=drive_link

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Strategy-Planning/Accommodation-Reviews>

Students Transportation: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/EarlyYears/Kindergarten/Transportation>

Staff Present:

- Alexis Dawson, Trustee Ward 9
- Deborah Williams, Trustee Ward 10
- Sara Ehrhardt, Trustee Ward 15
- Anastasia Poulis, Superintendent, FOS15
- Emma Nichols, Principal, Dundas PS
- Ross Edgar, Principal, Queen Alexandra MS
- Maia Puccetti, Executive Officer, Facilities and Planning
- Garry Green, Senior Manager, Student Transportation Services
- Ellie Cameron, Manager, Student Transportation Services

Question & Answer:

- Q: For students aging out of Dundas PS and going to Queen Alexandra MS, will there be bussing accommodations? Currently some students are on the bus on “empty seat” but many students have to take the TTC and walk past the Gardiner Expressway and encampments, crossing lakeshore to get to transit. Then it is multiple forms of transit to reach the school.

- A: The current procedure is to offer “empty seat” applications to students in grade 6 and up. We can look at offering this earlier, September instead of October. Student Transportation Services will take these concerns back to the table and look into options for this particular situation.
- Q: Dundas PS’ start time is 8:40 am but the street parking signage in the area assumes a 9:00 am start time and this causes many problems for traffic flow at school drop off. The parents and Trustee have been working with the City Councilor to try and rectify this.
 - A: The Student Transportation Services will look into this. The Trustee has been working with the city bi-law services and is making progress. Everything has been paused for the last two weeks to make snow removal a priority. Trustee Ehrhardt will continue to work with the City on this, progress is being made.
- Q: Will there be community consultations for the Mill Street site? It is better for the community to be involved earlier rather than later.
 - A: Yes, there will be community consultations, consultation will be important for this particular site. The project is still in early conceptual modelling. The development company will have mandatory community consultations and the Board can certainly go above and beyond the municipal requirements and engage further with the community.
- Q: Will East Bayfront residents be accommodated at the Lower Yonge site or the Keating site?
 - A: there will be a study in 2026 to determine attendance boundaries. However, based on the information we have now, the Lower Yonge site would most likely be accommodating the East Bayfront residents. This will be determined through public process in 2026.
- Q: Could you please reconfirm the new Cooper St. Stop?
 - A: It is on John M. Tinsley Street. Information will be updated and shared with the school and community.
- Q: With so many children traveling so far along the waterfront, why are we not able to have Bus Attendants or Parent Volunteers?
 - A: The Toronto Student Transportation Group Committee has been advocating for funding for this from the Ministry. We have not received any funding for bus attendants.
 - Volunteers are also a challenge with police and vulnerable sector checks needed. Having student volunteers poses a problem with adequate training for the type of incidents and safety concerns that can occur on buses.
- Q: Why do the TCDSB students in the same catchments get bussing for students K-8 in closer proximity? TDSB students have a farther bussing minimum and only for K-5.
 - A: The TCDSB has always had more lenient bussing policies than the TDSB. We are seeing the TCDSB reverse some of this now as budget cuts have an effect

[TDSB Budget](#)

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Business-Services/Budgets-and-Financial-Statements/The-TD-SB-Budget>

[Fund Our Schools Campaign](#)

<https://www.fundourschools.ca/>

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