

January 2008

Bus service during extreme weather and other conditions.

1. It is the intent of School District 62 (Sooke) to provide as much service reliability as possible during snow, ice, wind and other unforeseen weather conditions that could affect the transportation of students to and from schools. We work very closely with all municipalities, police, and Mainroad Island Contracting responsible for Malahat, Langford, and Port Renfrew for up-to-date information.
2. In the event of extreme weather conditions affecting the bus service, the Transportation Department surveys the routes early in the morning and a recommendation is made to the Superintendent of School District 62. If it is inadvisable to run buses in the District, the Superintendent will contact the major radio stations by 6:00am to advise them of his decision. In many instances, an alternate bus service dealing with a specific issue will be maintained; in other words, while we may not be able to provide service to all areas of a route, we will still provide service using the main roads that have been cleared for traffic.

For example:

- In the Highlands, we might service along Millstream Road but will not extend to Munns Rd or Finlayson Arms Rd.
- In Metchosin, we will stay on Metchosin Rd, Rocky Point Rd, Kangaroo Rd but we will not necessarily service Duke Rd, Glennforest Way, Liberty Rd and area.
- In the Sooke area, we will keep service on Sooke Rd, West Coast Rd, Otter Point Rd, Grant Road, Whiffen Spit Rd. If cleared, we will also provide service on East Sooke Rd and Gillepsie Rd. We might not provide service to Sunriver, Sooke River Rd, any route extensions off Otter Point Rd, Grant Rd or Westcoast Rd.

Bus stops are established at the closest point where the bus intercepts the inaccessible area and the main road.

Please keep in mind that bus service in extreme weather conditions is an ever-changing scenario as we try to extend the service as soon as the roads have been cleared. If you are not sure about the extent of the service in your area, please contact the Transportation Department for up-to-date information. Please keep in mind that buses will not necessarily run at the same times that have been published. During extreme conditions, we experience a traffic slow-down and many delays. It is not unusual that a bus may be late arriving to school or later going home. We put the safety of the students first on our list of priorities.

The Transportation Department.
474-9845 or 474-9843