

Ministry of Education

School Board Business Support
Branch
2 Carlton Street, #710
Toronto ON M5B1J3

Ministère de l'Éducation

Direction du soutien aux activités des
conseils scolaires
2 rue Carlton, #710
Toronto (Ontario) M5B 1J3

2020: SB09

Date: June 29, 2020

Memorandum to: Senior Business Officials

From: Colleen Hogan
Director
School Board Business Support Branch

Subject: **Student Transportation – Funding Formula Review Data Collection**

In January 2020, the Ministry of Education launched a review of student transportation, which aims to achieve a more equitable and needs-based student transportation system in Ontario. The review is in response to the Auditor General's 2015 value-for-money audit that recommended the government revisit the funding formula.

The ministry is approaching the review with three goals to guide decision-making: equity; fiscal responsibility and accountability; and evidence-based decision making. To support the funding formula review, a targeted stakeholder advisory group was established to provide expert advice to the ministry on student transportation funding, consortia model and operations, and procurement.

Through the annual Student Transportation Survey, consortia have provided the ministry with data for better accountability and for research and policy analysis to inform government decisions. As we move forward with next steps in the review of student transportation and to assist the government in determining a new funding approach, the ministry is requesting additional information from school boards and their consortia on student and distance information from consortia transportation systems.

This request is intended to leverage existing reporting capabilities embedded in the student transportation planning software and should reflect 2019-20 student information as of October

31, 2019. Submitted data should not include student names, OEN numbers or addresses for privacy reasons. The data must be provided according to the instructions and format in the attached Excel template. The ministry acknowledges that this information will represent a snapshot in time.

Completed reports approved by all member boards are to be submitted to student.transportation@ontario.ca by August 17, 2020. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this request please contact your consortium site analyst using the contact information provided in the submission template.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Colleen Hogan
Director
School Board Business Support Branch

c: Transportation Managers