



THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
REGINA SCHOOL DIVISION
NO. 4 OF SASKATCHEWAN

Regina Public School Board Office
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**The Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of
Regina, SK**

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

RE: Kindergarten Program and Transportation changes resulting from 2017-18 Provincial Budget

In response to provincial funding reductions, Regina Public Schools has made changes to its kindergarten programming and provision of transportation services. This letter is to inform you, that beginning in the 2017-18 school year, Regina Public Schools kindergarten programs will be offered on a full day, alternating day schedule, based on a five day calendar. This calendar will be made available to all parents/guardians of new students entering kindergarten and will be available at www.rbe.sk.ca.

Additionally, starting in the 2017-18 school year, Regina Public Schools will be implementing transportation zones to determine student transportation eligibility. These zones are different from the previous transportation boundaries and more closely reflect the transportation funding that is provided to the School Division by the Government.

Transportation zones are, for the most part, based on a radius drawn around each elementary school. Only students picked up and/or dropped off in the zones established will be eligible for transportation starting in September 2017. Information about the new transportation zones is available at www.rbe.sk.ca/transportation. In addition, if you have moved, or wish to verify your transportation status, please visit www.rbe.sk.ca/our-schools.

On March 22, 2017, the Government of Saskatchewan released the 2017-18 Provincial Budget. As a result of the budget, Regina Public Schools' operational grant funding was reduced by 2.5% or \$5.7 million. In particular, funding for student transportation decreased by \$1.6 million from the 2016-17 level. The combined effect of this funding reduction and increased costs associated with enrolment growth and school openings is that Regina Public Schools is facing a \$9.5 million shortfall for 2017-18 and will be required to make significant changes to its operations, including the provision of transportation services. The School Division is focused on minimizing the impact of the budget funding shortfall on students in the classroom by striving to align its delivery of services with the level of Government of Saskatchewan funding provided.

Difficult decisions had to be made so that we can continue to focus our resources and our attention on students in classrooms and student achievement. We trust that informing you early in the process will allow your family to better prepare for the 2017-2018 school year. If you have any questions about Kindergarten, please contact your school.

Sincerely,

Greg Enion
Director of Education