



TO: **Parents/guardians of new JK/SK/primary bus riders**
 FROM: Kim Malkamaki, Administration Manager – Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium
 SUBJECT: **First Rider Program – August 2016 – A program for first-time JK/SK/primary bus riders**

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) provides student transportation services within Simcoe County for the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board (SMCDSB). The role of the SCSTC includes contracting bus and vehicle operators on behalf of the SCDSB and SMCDSB.

The SCSTC is pleased to welcome your student to the experience of riding on the school bus for the first time. We invite you and your student to take part in the **FREE** informative **First Rider Program** – a school bus safety program for first-time school bus riders, which includes a ride on a real school bus!

This **FREE** program is provided by the SCSTC, in partnership with our School Vehicle Operators, to educate students and their families about the rules and responsibilities on and around the school bus. Each identical session will run for approximately one hour.

****Parents/guardians and their students attending school in Simcoe County may attend any of the sessions. ****

The format for the First Rider Program is as follows (approximately one hour):

1. Programs start on the hour (start times are listed below).
2. Topics covered include: school bus facts, safety rules on and around the school bus and responsibilities of riding the bus.
3. Viewing of a school bus safety video.
4. Students and families are taken on a short school bus ride to practice safe school bus riding procedures.

The Summer 2016 First Rider Program proposed dates, times and locations are tentatively scheduled as follows:

Wednesday	Aug. 17	(6 p.m.)	Alliston	Ernest Cumberland Elementary School
Monday	Aug. 22	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Innisfil	Goodfellow Public School
Wednesday	Aug. 24	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Orillia	Monsignor Lee Catholic Elementary School
Wednesday	Aug. 24	(6 p.m.)	Barrie	Sister Catherine Donnelly Catholic School
Thursday	Aug. 25	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Bradford	Fieldcrest Elementary School
Friday	Aug. 26	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Barrie	St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School
Saturday	Aug. 27	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Barrie	Trillium Woods Elementary School
Saturday	Aug. 27	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Wasaga Beach	Birchview Dunes Elementary School
Saturday	Aug. 27	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Midland	Monsignor Castex Catholic School
Saturday	Aug. 27	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Bradford	St. Angela Merici Catholic School
Monday	Aug. 29	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Collingwood	Mountain View Elementary School
Wednesday	Aug. 31	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Midland	Mundy's Bay Public School
Wednesday	Aug. 31	(6 p.m.)	Barrie	Terry Fox Elementary School
Thursday	Sept. 1	(6 p.m.)	Orillia	Orchard Park Public School
Friday	Sept. 2	(9, 10 and 11 a.m.)	Alliston	St. Paul's Catholic School

For updates – or to confirm First Rider Program dates and locations – visit the 'Home' page of the SCSTC website (simcoecountyschoolbus.ca) and click on the 'Safety' tab.

If you have any questions please contact Sean Levasseur, Safety and Accessibility Officer, Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium at slevasseur@scstc.ca or (705) 733-8965 ext.104.