Dear ASD-S Families,

The provincial Return to School plan outlines how masks and physical distancing can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools and on our buses.

ASD-S has 228 buses covering 990 runs and physical distancing of students has required us to add additional runs, altering our schedules.

It is important that every family confirms their child(ren)'s bus stops and times, as this information may have changed.

To confirm busing details, you are asked to register your child in BusPlanner. Please click **here** to access Bus Planner, which is located on the ASD-S website. Create your account in the Parent Portal and "Add Student" to verify your child's busing details. You will need your child's NBEN (New Brunswick Education Number) which can be found on the top right corner of their report card to register. While you are there, you can also sign up to be notified of busing updates such as delays, cancellations, and route changes.

We have worked hard to minimize disruptions to our routes. All students living beyond 1.5 km will continue to have transportation provided to and from their zoned school and school hours will not be changing in ASD-S. However, some changes were necessary to allow for physical distancing and to assist with contact tracing. Students in K-5 will be seated 1 per seat unless with a member of the same family, and students in grades 6-12 will be seated 2 per seat where required (and will wear a mask unless seated alone or with a member of the same household).

This resulted in some changes such as **moving bus stops**, altering pick-up/drop-off times, and **limiting our courtesy busing**. This is why it is important you confirm your child's busing details in BusPlanner.

We encourage all families to also check back and verify their child's details in BusPlanner prior to the first day of school. Families who wish to request transportation to an alternate address, such as after school care, are asked to <u>complete this form</u> as soon as possible.

We thank you for your understanding as we work to ensure the safety of our students as they head back to a new year.

For those with students new to bus transportation, particularly those starting Kindergarten, a safety orientation video can be seen <u>here</u>. This video was created by members of our dedicated transportation staff. Further resources about student busing policies can be found <u>here</u> and bus safety, <u>here</u>.

Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to welcoming your child back in September!