



## Memorandum

**Date:** March 6, 2020  
**To:** Board of Education  
**From:** Planning and Facilities Committee

**Action Item:** Review of School of Choice Bus Runs

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### 1.0 ISSUE STATEMENT

At the April 24, 2019 Public Board meeting, the Board of Education agreed that the special runs on routes 320 and 411 would be reviewed once the transportation review was completed.

### 2.0 RELEVANT BOARD MOTION/DIRECTION

Public Board Meeting – April 24, 2019

#### **Main 19P-066**

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the following recommendation, subject to a full transportation review in the Spring of 2020: notwithstanding the previous motion, to support the viability of the new French Immersion programs on the Westside, to accommodate French Immersion students travelling from École George Pringle Elementary to Glenrosa Middle as eligible riders on a bus route.**

#### **Main 19P-068**

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the following recommendation, subject to a full transportation review in the Spring of 2020: continue rerouting Route 320 past École Dorothea Walker Elementary for the 2019-2020 school year.**

Board Regulation 470R

**Transportation will not be provided to a school or program of choice outside a student's English catchment area unless approved by the Board (e.g. French Immersion or locally developed courses).**

### 3.0 BACKGROUND

The following three bus routes that are operating to service students to attend a French Immersion program at a school other than their English catchment school:

- Route 314, which transports students from the South Kelowna area to École Casorso Elementary. A review of Board minutes cannot find an approval for this route, which has been operating for many years.
- Route 320, which is currently being rerouted to drop off French Immersion students at École Dorothea Walker Elementary.
- Route 411, which currently has a shuttle at the end of its route to take students from École George Pringle Elementary to Glenrosa Middle.

At the March 4, 2020 Planning and Facilities Committee meeting, the Committee passed recommendations on Routes 314 and 411 but deferred a recommendation on Route 320 to the March 11, 2020 Public Board meeting so that the Board could receive more information on the historical background of Route 320.

#### 4.0 POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

##### 4.1 Costing

Currently, the District is paying the following costs for this additional service:

Route	Addtl Driver Hrs/Day	Addtl Kms/Day	Driver Costs	Operating Costs	Total
314 (CAS)	1 hrs	30 kms	\$5,165	\$9,765	\$14,930
320 (DWE)	1.5 hrs	60 kms	\$7,748	\$19,530	\$27,278
411 (GMS)*	0 hrs	0 kms	\$0	\$0	\$0

\*The shuttle run will continue to have capacity in 2020-2021 school year and will be required to shuttle English students to GMS.

##### 4.2 Additional Information Requested

Route 320 pre-dates the opening of Chute Lake Elementary School and was created to provide busing to students in the Upper Mission that were directed to École Dorothea Walker Elementary as Anne McClymont Elementary was capped. Once Chute Lake Elementary opened, this route continued to provide service to those directed students. As there was space on the bus when French Immersion was established at École Dorothea Walker Elementary, French Immersion students were permitted to ride the bus as courtesy riders.

As time has passed, all students that were directed to École Dorothea Walker Elementary are now in other schools and Route 320 is now operating exclusively to provide service to students that attend École Dorothea Walker Elementary as a school of choice.

#### 5.0 SECRETARY –TREASURER/CFO COMMENTS

The survey results from the Transportation consultation found that 70% of respondents were not in support of providing eligible service to schools of choice. It is important to ensure that all students that attend a school other than their school of choice are treated equally. The elimination of the two runs that solely serve school of choice students will allow for these resources to be reallocated to provide a greater level of service to students that are eligible for transportation under Board policy.

The shuttle run from École George Pringle Elementary to École Glenrosa Middle is required to serve English catchment students and has capacity to accommodate the French Immersion students. This recommendation costs the District nothing, increases revenues and continues to support the viability of a newer French Immersion program.

## **6.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the continuation of the accommodation of French Immersion students travelling from École George Pringle Elementary to École Glenrosa Middle as eligible riders on a bus route for the 2020-2021 school year.**

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the elimination of the South Kelowna to École Casorso Elementary run on Route 314.**

## **7.0 STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the elimination of the Upper Mission to École Dorothea Walker Elementary run on Route 320.**