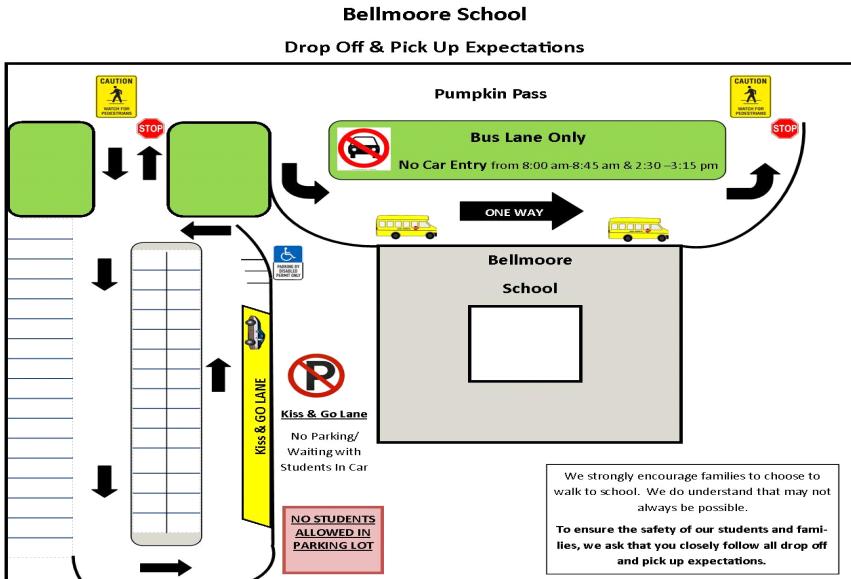


Driving to School

Tips for Safety



Our school parking lot was not designed to accommodate the amount of traffic that we see on a daily basis. We strongly encourage families who are within walking distance of the school to walk. We have Crossing Guards located at main crossing areas for your safety. If you do need to drive, we ask that you park your car on the street if the lot is full. Parking in the Kiss and Go Lane creates traffic back up, frustration and safety issues. If you use the Kiss and Go Lane, drop your child off after 8:15 am in the Kindergarten Pen and then promptly return to your car and exit the parking lot. A reminder that Handicapped Parking Spots are to be reserved for permit holders only. If we all follow the school rules and parking signage, we will have a safe and orderly school. We ask that all families are courteous, respectful and most of all patient, during these very busy times of the day.



Bellmoore School

Transportation Information



Getting our students to and from school safely is one of our top priorities. We hope you find this information useful and informative in regards to getting your child to and from Bellmoore School. For more information, please contact the school.



Eligible for Transportation

General Bus Information

Bus eligibility is based on your **HOME** address. During the summer, Transportation generates the bus routes and then informs parents of their bus stop location and times with a letter in the mail. If you believe you are eligible for busing and you do not receive a letter, please call the Transportation Department (**HWTS**). When you receive your bus information and it is not correct, please be sure to contact Transportation right away to get it corrected.



Kindergarten Students

For Kindergarten students, you should receive a bus tag with your letter. On the tag, clearly mark your child's name and the **AFTER-NOON** Bus Route Number on it. Some students may take a different bus to school than the one they take home from school. We only require the afternoon route number as that is the bus we will put your child on at the end of the day. You will also need to visit hamiltonschoolbus.ca to register your child in the Parent's Portal to authorize people who can pick your child up or meet them at the stop.

First Rider Program

In order to introduce JK and SK students and their parents to the school bus environment and rules, First Rider sessions are held at various locations around the Hamilton-Wentworth region. Sessions are approximately 45 minutes in length. Students then go out to a real school bus where they go on a ride with their parents. Once the ride is over, the driver shows the students and parents all the safety features on the bus. You should receive information about the First Rider Program with your letter from **HWTS**. This session typically takes place in mid-August.



Courtesy Rider Information

As mentioned, bus eligibility is based on your home address. If you do not live within the busing

area, then you do not qualify for transportation. This is true even if you are using a baby sitter or a family friend or relative that is on a bus route. Your child is not eligible to ride the bus. The HWDSB, however, will allow Courtesy Riders on a bus, should there be sufficient room. In order to access Courtesy Rider status, an application to the principal must be made.

Courtesy Rider status must be applied for every year and is only valid from the day the application is granted until the end of the current school year. Courtesy Rider numbers vary from year to year and from Bus Route to Bus Route. At times, there are no Courtesy Seats available. Applications can be handed in beginning the last week of August during normal office hours. Please be aware that Courtesy Rider status is typically not approved until October, once we know for certain that there are available seats. Approval is granted using the following criteria:

- Students who qualify for transportation but are requesting a different bus route for Day Care purposes
- Students who do not qualify for transportation but are requesting access for Day Care purposes
- Students who do not qualify for transportation but live just outside the transportation distance

Contact Hamilton-Wentworth Transportation Services **HWTS**

Phone: 905-523-2318

Toll Free: 1-800-691-6402

Web: hamiltonschoolbus.ca

