

Written Submission to the Board of Education
Jeff and Rhonda Bradley

Subject: Maple Ridge School Buses - Don't take them away - they are important and a very much NEEDED Essential Service!!!

I am writing to you to save my children's school bus!! I have 3 sons, my oldest is at Garibaldi and is a Straight "A" student, my 2 other sons attend Webster's Corners and are also very bright boys who love to work hard and love school; my youngest children are 8 and 11. My children and I are devastated that their bus will be cancelled, they absolutely cannot walk to school it is unsafe and it would take them an hour or possible 2 to walk. I work shift work and I leave at 2:45 in the morning, my husband leaves at 5am leaving our 15 year old is in charge of getting all the boys ready for the bus.

We love living in Whonnock and we love our school. Can't we sit down and come up with a solution; this is about the safety of all the children that attend the schools in Rural Maple Ridge. We need these buses!!! There has to be a SOLUTION!! I will not put my children's safety and lives at risk.

Two years ago when they implemented the fees for the bus kids, I was more than happy to pay; I would pay more to know that my children are safe!!! My children need this service as do so many other children.

I understand building a new school in Maple Ridge (Albion Area) is a necessity because Maple Ridge is growing but so is our buses they are a necessity too, these children deserve an education and support from our District & School Board.

When I moved out to Whonnock 14 years ago there were school buses and my children have needed this service, they are safe getting to and from school. This is one of the reasons we bought out in Whonnock because of the school buses. My children have not missed any school, I thought school was Mandatory for children and I don't know how they will get to school in September? You must do something, these children need these buses. Please help.

My suggestion to you is to come out to Whonnock and experience for yourself how your children/grandchildren would walk to school, you can see the wildlife as you walk in the dark – don't forget your flashlight and safety vest as we have no street lights, no sidewalks.

What message are you sending these children - They matter and deserve an education!!

A Disappointed Parent whose children NEED the buses!