

Written Submission to the Board of Education

Jaana Mikkola

Subject: School buses

I am not sure how the district decided that school buses were not necessary! Have you checked the public transit availability in east Maple Ridge? Non existent! We reside at 280th and Garibaldi high school is not within walking distance. Most people that live in Maple Ridge have jobs that do not allow them to be home at 8 am and 2:30 and high school kids do not qualify for daycare! The fact that some elementary schools are full and children need to be taken to alternate schools is not the fault of the children or their parents, but the poor planning of our town where development is concerned. This is seen in all areas of our town's development, more housing but no businesses or shopping to increase employment opportunities in Maple Ridge!

I am seriously hoping that the school buses for our community are reinstated unless your staff are going to start driving our children to school!