

Leigh Glancie

From: Leigh Glancie
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2026 11:38 AM
To: Leigh Glancie
Subject: FW: URGENT: Child safety on Prospect Lake Road June 3rd

From: reneemulligan@gmail.com <reneemulligan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 5:55:47 PM
To: Tim Dunford <tdunford@saanichschools.ca>; Nola Silzer <nsilzer@saanichschools.ca>; Keven Elder <kelder@saanichschools.ca>; Susan Hickman <shickman@saanichschools.ca>; Elsie Mcmurphy <emcmurphy@saanichschools.ca>; Joyce Vandall <jvandall@saanichschools.ca>; Teri Vanwell <tvandall@saanichschools.ca>; zac.devries@saanich.ca <zac.devries@saanich.ca>
Cc: Nina Heft <nina@mrbitter.org>; Jude Coates <Judecoates@gmail.com>
Subject: URGENT: Child safety on Prospect Lake Road June 3rd

[Caution: External Sender] This email is from a sender outside the organization. Do not open attachments, reply, or click links unless you have verified the content and sender are legitimate.

Dear Saanich Board of Education and Councillor deVries,

Mid day today parents of children riding the SD63 bus learned that starting tomorrow the bus would be cancelled down Prospect Lake Road for the rest of the school year. This means our children are expected to walk down an unsafe and narrow road, with no sidewalks, up to 40 mins from Petworth to the Elementary School. This decision was made on the basis that the road was deemed too unsafe for the bus to operate or turnaround on.

As concerned parents we met with the Transportation Department yesterday. They asked for questions in advance. We sent them Sunday. We provided them a long list of ideas. None were accepted. The standard cannot be a perfect standard for the safety for the bus, while disregarding the fact that children will be forced to walk down an unsafe and narrow road, with no sidewalks, twice a day during rush hour. This will be exasperated in the winter, with permanent daylight savings time, when our children will need to leave the house and walk down a road with no streetlights, in the dark.

Our children are at a high risk of being hit by a car or truck while walking- there are still 3 1/2 weeks of school left this year.

We draw your attention to policy 21 in the Board policy manual. We believe our road qualifies as an exceptionally and substantially unsafe road.

The Transportation Department sent an email to parents on May 27 telling us that Prospect Lake Rd was too unsafe and there was too much traffic at high speeds for the bus to safely operate. That was when we first learned there was a traffic accident with the bus turning around on Petworth/ Prospect Lake Rd.

I encourage each of you to take a drive down Prospect Lake Road during rush hour - notice how the cars are tailgating and extremely aggressive- ignoring the speed limits of 40 and 30 km/hr.

The traffic continues to race down our road. We need a solution quickly. Long-term traffic- calming and infrastructure such as stop signs, and speed bumps are likely required, however an interim solution must be found to avoid children being placed in danger.

Please act immediately. Feel free to contact me anytime.

Renée Mulligan
(Parent of a child on the school bus.)
4871 Prospect Lake Road
(250)813-3318

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gord Bridges <gbridges@saanichschools.ca>
Date: June 2, 2026 at 12:09:44 PM PDT
To: Gord Bridges <gbridges@saanichschools.ca>
Cc: Rob Lumb <rlumb@saanichschools.ca>
Subject: important notice Prospect Lake bus turnaround

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We are writing to provide an update regarding bus service along Prospect Lake Road. Thank you for the recent feedback and suggestions for service options on Prospect Lake Road. Our priority continues to be ensuring that our school buses are placed into situations that are safe for their riders and other vehicles on the road.

Over the past several days, we have carefully assessed multiple turnaround options for our school buses in this area. This has included on-site observations, trial runs by drivers, and discussions with community members. Unfortunately, despite these efforts, we have not been able to identify a location that allows for a safe and legal turnaround for a full-size school bus.

We want to thank those families who met with us and shared possible solutions to the turn-around challenges we are facing. We truly appreciate your willingness to work with us as we looked for possible solutions. We also thank the team at *Power to Be* for allowing us to trial their parking area further down Prospect Lake Road as a

potential turnaround location. While we appreciated their support, our observations today of one of our buses utilizing the turnaround showed significant safety concerns, including limited turning space and the need for our buses to enter Prospect Lake Road at a blind corner, requiring the bus to cross the center line onto oncoming traffic. This is not a maneuver we can safely support.

As a result, effective tomorrow (June 3, 2026), the following arrangements will be in place:

- **Bus #5** will pick up students at **Prospect Lake School at 8:25 a.m.**
- There is also some limited space available on **Bus #11**, which departs **Prospect Lake School at 8:27 a.m.**

We recognize that this change will likely result in inconvenience and adjustments for families. However, the safety of students on our buses remain a top priority, and we cannot continue service in a location where safe and legal operation cannot be assured. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your student transportation arrangements, please feel free to reply to this email.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,
Gord Bridges

Gord Bridges

Manager of Transportation, Saanich Schools

2125 Keating Cross Road, Saanichton, BC V8M 2A5

<image.png>

250-652-7300 Ext.81292

We acknowledge and thank the W̱SÁNEĆ people on whose traditional territory we live, learn, and teach. The W̱SÁNEĆ people have lived and worked on this land since time immemorial.

<image.png>

