

School bus delays in Halton normal for this time of year: HSTS

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Parents and students who found themselves waiting for delayed school buses on Tuesday should see things return to schedule shortly.

According to general manager at Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS), Karen Lacroix, school bus delays in Halton Region the first day of school were mostly normal and should be corrected in short order.

"The vast majority of delays this morning were caused by high traffic around schools, construction and some mechanical issues with buses which is typical for the first few days in September," said Lacroix in an emailed comment.

According to the HSTS website this morning, there were dozens of routes delayed across the region ranging anywhere

from 10 minutes to an hour.

However, Lacroix said only 1.5 per cent of HSTS's fleet was delayed due to a shortage of school bus drivers.

"(Thirteen) of HSTS's 860 runs, which include runs for both the Halton District School Board and the Halton Catholic District School Board, that were late this morning (approximately 1.5 per cent) could be attributed to a shortage of school bus drivers," said Lacroix.

HSTS posted an announcement on its website leading up to the new school year warning parents of the possibility of service being affected in Oakville and Burlington as a result of the shortage.

"As the new school year approaches, Halton school bus operators have advised Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS) that there may be a shortage of school bus

drivers in Oakville and Burlington that could impact school bus operations this September. The Halton school bus operators and HSTS have been working diligently on a daily basis to minimize any possible delays that could impact students and families," read the announcement.

Despite the issues, which continued to a lesser degree on Tuesday's trip home for some students, Lacroix says most of the issues should be sorted out fairly quickly.

"We do not anticipate any significant delays in the Halton Hills area beyond the typical delays that occur the first few days of every September," she said.

HSTS has a webpage dedicated to cancellations and delays updated in real time available to all students and parents at gequery.haltonbus.ca/Cancellations.aspx.



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School bus delays seen the first day of school across Halton Region will be fixed shortly according to Halton Student Transportation Services.

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The Town of Halton Hills will soon be moving to a new digital procurement management platform 'bids&tenders™' that allows suppliers to view, download and submit bids entirely online.

Suppliers interested in bidding on goods and services for the Town or any of the area municipalities need to set up an account with bids&tenders™. This can be completed at: bidsandtenders.ca.



Suppliers are invited to a free, live demonstration on:

Wednesday, October 4 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Halton Region auditorium, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville ON.

Event includes a presentation from local municipal purchasing staff on "How to do business with the Halton Cooperative Purchasing Group".

Register at 1-800-594-4798 or email support@bidsandtenders.ca

Contact Simone Gourlay at 905-873-2601 x 2210 for more information.