

Merivale Letter

Good day,

The Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) works collaboratively with OC Transpo to ensure there is adequate public transit service for eligible students in grades 7 through 12. OSTA provides us the area and the number of students that require OC Transpo service coverage. More information is available on [OSTA's website](#), including a zone map and contact information for each zone's respective transportation coordinators you may use for further assistance.

Direct routes are available based on demand volume that is constantly monitored by OSTA and OC Transpo. OC Transpo has provided alternative options below.

Based on an arrival time of 07:55 at Merivale High School to meet the 08:05 morning bell, and departure from the school at 14:25:

MORNING PLAN 1: via Queensway and Baseline stations

Students board their respective neighbourhood routes. Please note that you can find your local route on the OC Transpo [trip planner](#).

Buses will drop them off at upper Queensway Station Stop 4A, where they can use the stairs located at the rear side of the bus to head to stop 1A to transfer to route 186 Merivale/Slack scheduled at Queensway 1A at 07:19. The bus is scheduled to arrive at Merivale/Viewmount, near the school, at 07:29.

Should the student miss the connection with route 186 at Queenway 1A, they can take route 73 Leikin, 74 Nepean Woods, 75 Barrhaven Centre, or 75 Cambrian from the same stop (Queensway 1A) to [Baseline Station](#) Stop 1D and walk back one stop to 1C to catch an 83 Merivale/Viewmount, scheduled to depart Baseline 1C at 07:36. That bus is due at Merivale/Viewmount for 07:49.

MORNING PLAN 2: via Tunney's Pasture

Students can travel via neighbourhood routes to [Tunney's Pasture Station](#). The bus will drop them off at Tunney's Pasture Stop C (except buses on select route 61 trips to Gatineau, which drop off at Tunney's Pasture E), where students can proceed to stop D and take the 80 Deakin/Auriga, 80 Barrhaven Centre, or 89 Colonnade to Merivale/Viewmount. Ideally, students should depart Tunney's Pasture between 07:25 and 07:40 for an on-time arrival at Merivale/Viewmount.

Please note as OSTA does not provide the specific addresses of students, we are unable to provide exact trip plans, but parents and students are encouraged to use our [trip planner](#) or call 613-560-5000 (option 2) to determine the ideal route for students to get to and from school from their respective addresses.

Best efforts are continuing towards implementing a dedicated bus from the Hazeldean Mall that would go directly to Canterbury High School.

In order for OC Transpo to be able to allocate dedicated bus service that would serve students from Kanata, Stittsville and any students from further out, we need to hear from parents.

Can you commit to getting your child to Hazeldean Mall between 8-8:15am (time to be determined) to board a dedicated bus that would travel directly from the Mall to Canterbury High School? We cannot allocate dedicated buses without having confirmation that enough students would be using this route.

Please respond as soon as possible to either Councillor Hubley @ Allan.Hubley@Ottawa.ca or our school board Trustee Christine Boothby @ Christine.boothby@ocdsb.ca by Friday September 17th.

All responses will be forwarded to OC Transpo who will then let us know if we have the numbers to implement dedicated bus service. Either my office, or Trustee Boothby will then be in touch the week of September 20th to provide an update. Regular bus service to Canterbury remains in place as outlined above with many timing options available to students.

Thank you very much,

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