

Welcome to the Walking School Bus!

We are very excited to have your child walking on the bus this year! The Walking School Bus (WSB) Program is funded by the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA) and administered by the Ottawa Safety Council (OSC).

Please find attached your WSB route and stop times. It is important that your child meet the WSB Leader at the designated stops and times. As well – please review the attached “Rules of the Bus” with your child prior to the start of the school year.

Your WSB Leaders are **Catherine and Colin**. They will be calling you prior to the start of school to personally introduce themselves. Here is what they have to say about the Walking School Bus Program:



Catherine Link-Henniger
(613) 791-9338



Colin Grant
(613) 415-0196

My name is Catherine Link-Henniger. I have been a teacher for over 15 years. As an educator, I am often asked by friends, family, and parents, why I have chosen to work with children.” When I get asked this question, my immediate thought is: why wouldn’t I like to work with kids!

Children make me a more knowledgeable person: Children are, by nature, very curious. With all the questions they ask, I constantly find myself looking for answers on books and on the internet.

Children make me a well-informed person: As kids often expect for me to know exactly what they are talking about, I also have to keep up-to-date on current affairs, as well as on the latest video games, cartoons, and coolest apps for iPads and phones.

Children make me a healthier person: I am a firm believer of leading by example, therefore I follow a healthy lifestyle by eating healthy foods and keeping active (which comes in very handy when I need to keep up with them!). Knowing that my job is to help kids be safe and learn safety, brings a huge smile to my face and helps me sleep better at night! I look forward to meeting you and your child.

- Catherine

I jumped at the opportunity to participate as a walking school bus leader, I am extremely glad I did. Glad because it is a natural fit for me. Glad also because just in that one week I’ve witnessed how a simple 15 or 20 minute walk to school with peers can be of great value to the participating children. They notice things along the route they would not were they travelling by car or motorized school bus. This social interaction offers a bit of fun, while furthering their education in a small way. It also helps instill a sense of responsibility and awareness of the need to take necessary precautions. I’ve actually witnessed it all before. I claim that being a walking school bus leader is a natural fit because I have actually been one before, albeit in an unofficial capacity walking my niece and her friends to school many years ago!

- Colin

Important! If your child is ill or won’t be walking with the bus – please contact your WSB Leader ASAP to let them know!

We hope your child has a fun time on the Walking School Bus and great school year!

Should you have any questions or concerns – please feel free to call the Program Manager at the Ottawa Safety Council at 613-238-1513, ext. 230.

Happy Walking!