Month XX, 202X

**Minister of Education**

Executive Branch
228 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB, T5K 2B6

**E-mail:** education.minister@gov.ab.ca

*Delivered by email*

**Re: Transportation Funding**

Dear Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides,

I appreciate the decision of lowering the distance eligibility for Alberta students to ride the bus as this will help the almost 33,000 students who rely on a school bus, to get to school safely.

I am sure you have considered several aspects of this decision, which is why I wanted to share my story for your consideration. This is where you make it personal. How has this affected you?

It is my understanding that… this is where you list out the facts that stand out to you.

With the reduced walk limit from 2.4km to 1km (grades 1 – 6) and 2km (grades 7-12) for students taking effect in the 2024-2025 school year, FSD will need to purchase at least 16 more school buses to service schools and families in Okotoks and High River, costing approximately $2.7 Million. As Foothills School Division’s capital reserves currently sit at $2.5 Million, there is simply not enough money in their reserves to cover this mandated cost.

I would like to share with you some ideas that could maintain the safety of students, while promoting cost-efficient solutions. This is where you add some solutions of your own, or look at proposed solutions on the transportation advocacy page.

Thank you for the opportunity to advocate for my child and our school division. I appreciate being able to voice my concerns about how a government mandate around transportation will significantly impact my child’s classroom. I would appreciate a follow up response from you regarding your consideration of my story.

Respectfully,

Your name here

Cc: MLA
 Foothills School Division