

The Ontario School Bus Association states on their website www.osba.on.ca that " Ride times have a direct link to student success. A long-standing study found that if a student spends more than an hour on a bus there is a reduction in achievement in standardized test scores. This trend was confirmed in a recent study that found very long rides reduced students' sleep time, recreational time, academic attentiveness, and extracurricular participation."

It is 53km's from Honey Harbour Public School to Glen Orchard School, without stopping and picking up kids along the way. This would equate to well over an hour's bus ride one way for little children without any access to a bathroom or the ability to get out. That is an inhumane amount of time for small children to ride one way to school. This long bus ride is detrimental to any of these children being able to participate in any extra-curricular activities. Parents in the honey Honey Harbour/Port Severn area would not be able to pick them up after such activities due to the fact that many do not have the transportation or some like myself work in Barrie, Midland or Orillia which is over 1.5 hours south. There should be snow tires on these particular buses since the highways going north to Glen Orchard are very treacherous in the winter. Will these buses be equipped with proper snow tires? What is your transportation plan in the event of large weather events? What is the emergency contingency plan in the case of road closures? Would Justin Trudeau put his children on such a long and potentially treacherous bus ride in the winter with no snow tires? I think not, so why should we?

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