

POLICY

2011

5710

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Non-Instructional/Business
Operations

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

It is the intent of the Board of Education to comply with the letter and spirit of the New York State Education Law: with the regulations of the Department of Motor Vehicles and of the Department of Transportation and with the Commissioner of Education's regulations and decisions pertinent to student transportation, and these shall govern any questions not covered by specific declaration of policy herein.

The purposes of the transportation program are to transport students to and from school, to transport them for extracurricular activities, to transport them on field trips, and to transport those requiring special services.

The Board of Education recognizes and assumes the responsibility for all aspects of the transportation of children wherein the health and safety of students are involved, for the Board of Education has a legal obligation to safeguard the welfare of bus-riding children.

Education Law Sections 3 602(7) and 3635 et seq.

Scheduling and Routing

Bus routes are authorized by the Board of Education and any requests for a change must be submitted to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Transportation shall be provided as follows: Kindergarten through Grade 2, 1/4 mile. Grades 3 through 6, 1/2 mile; Grades 7 through 12, 1 mile; out-of-district transportation, not in excess of 15 miles, as approved by the taxpayers of the District at the Annual Meeting and Election held on May 17, 2005.

Mileage to determine eligibility for transportation will be measured front door of the school via the farthest driveway, over the nearest public highway or street, to the taxpayers farthest property line.

Eligibility for transportation will not obligate the District to furnish door-to-door transportation.

General policy should strive for a district-wide average bus route length of no more than 45 * minutes for in-district students.

Walker/Rider

All students are to be classified as "riders" or "walkers." If for any reason a student requests to do otherwise, i.e., a walker wants to ride the bus to a friend's house, permission must be received from both a parent and the school principal.

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Amended 10/26/11

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SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (Cont'd.)

Late Buses

Late bus transportation means transportation from the school attended by the students to their home at a time of day later than the time when such transportation is first provided following the end of regular classes. The concept of late bus transportation does not include transportation from school to any place other than the student's home or other normal after-school delivery point. Late bus transportation, if granted to the in-District public schools, shall be given to resident students legally attending non-public schools and entitled to transportation by law or District policy, whether such schools are located within or outside of the District.

For purposes of determining the eligibility of non-public school students for late bus transportation, the following guidelines are established:

- a) Administration must have reasonable notice of such requests, and for this purpose the deadline request dates for transportation to non-public schools, as set forth in Board Policy #5730 shall apply.
- h) Unreasonable requests for late bus transportation may be refused by the Board of Education, Final determination of what is "unreasonable" shall be made by the Board of Education in those individual cases referred to the Board by administration.

Education Law Sections 3621 and 3635

Transportation of Students

Requests for Transportation to and from Non-Public Schools

To be eligible for transportation to non-public schools, a written notice must be given to the Transportation Department by the parent of a student for whom transportation is desired, not later than April 1 preceding the beginning of the next school year, except where families move into the District later than April 1, in which case the request should be made within thirty (30) days after establishing residence in the District. These requests will be reviewed for reasonableness and cost impact.

Students who are not normally eligible for transportation to non-public schools (beyond 15 miles) will qualify if the District is currently transporting eligible students to that school. The District will designate one public school (Stimson Middle School) as a centralized pick-up point. The District is not responsible for providing transportation between such designated pick-up point and the student's home. Such transportation shall be discontinued effective with the discontinuance of transportation for all eligible students.

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SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Transportation of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities in the District shall be transported up to fifty (50) miles (one way) from their home to the appropriate special service or program, unless the Commissioner certifies that no appropriate nonresidential special service or program is available within fifty (50) miles. The Commissioner may then establish transportation arrangements.

Transportation of Non-Resident Students

The District shall not extend its bus routes outside of the District to pick up non-resident students.

Transportation to School Sponsored Events

If the District provides transportation for student athletes participating in inter-scholastic competition and students attending District sponsored educational field trips, students will not be authorized to use any other means of transportation when participating in these events, unless the principal or his/her designee authorizes such alternate transportation. The principal shall require written application prior to approval. As an exception to this policy, a coach may release a student to the parent/guardian for transportation from an inter-scholastic event upon the receipt of a written request from the parent/guardian.

Education Law Sections 3635, 4401(4), 4404, and
4405

Adopted: 6/16/99
Amended: 4/5/00
Amended: 5/17/2005