

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Transportation

It is the intent of the West Haven Board of Education to comply with the letter and spirit of the Connecticut State Department of Education laws and the Commissioner of Education's regulations and decisions pertinent to the transportation of students. These laws, rules and regulations shall govern any question not covered by specific declaration of policy, rule or regulation passed by the West Haven Board of Education.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education

10-220 Duties of boards of education

14-275 Equipment and color of school buses

14-275a Use of standard school bus required, when.

14-275b Transportation of handicapped students.

14-275c Regulations re school buses and motor vehicles used to transport special education students.

14-276a (c) Town/school district may require its school bus operators to have completed a safety training course.

14-280 Letters and signals to be concealed when not used in transporting children. Signs on other vehicles.

Policy adopted:

June 5, 2000

WEST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
West Haven, Connecticut

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Riding Limits

Grade	Distance to School
Kindergarten through Grade 3	$\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile
Grades 5 and 5	1 mile
Grades 6-7-8 (Jr. H.S. Level)	1.5 miles
Senior High School (Grades 9-10-11-12)	2 miles

Transportation Guidelines

A street or road having an adjacent or parallel sidewalk or walk area shall be deemed hazardous when any one of the following conditions exist:

1. For students in grades Kindergarten through 3, absence of pedestrian crossing light or crossing guard where three or more streets intersect, and at street crossings where there are no stop signs or crossing guards and the traffic count during the time that students are walking to or from school exceeds sixty vehicles per hour at the intersection;
2. For students in grades 4 through 12, the absence of a traffic light or stop signs or crossing guard where three or more streets intersect and has a traffic count which exceeds ninety vehicles per hour during the time that students are walking to or from school;
3. For all students, any street, road, or highway with speed limits in excess of forty (40) miles per hour which do not have pedestrian crossing lights or crossing guards or other safety provisions at points where students must cross when going to or from school;

Any street, road or highway, which has no sidewalks or walk areas shall be deemed hazardous if any one of the following conditions exist:

1. For students in grades Kindergarten through 3, any street, road, or highway possessing a traffic count of sixty or more vehicles per hour at the time that students are walking to or from school;

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Transportation Guidelines (continued)

2. For all students, any roadway that does not have a minimum width of twenty-two feet;
3. For students in grades Kindergarten through 3, any street, road, or highway that students must travel when walking to or from school which possesses a speed limit in excess of thirty-five miles per hour.

A lake pond, stream, culvert, waterway, or bridge shall be deemed hazardous in the absence of a fence or other suitable barrier fixed between the students and the water, for students in grades Kindergarten through 3.

Exceptions

The Board of Education may waive the distance requirement listed above if any physical condition exists that may endanger the health or general welfare of a student. Such conditions are to be investigated by the appropriate Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, the Principal of the school, the Chief of Police and, when necessary, by the school Medical Department. Their findings and RECOMMENDATIONS are to be submitted, in writing, to the Superintendent of Schools for final approval and submission to the Board of Education.

Location of Bus Stops

No bus stop will be located less than three-quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) of a mile from the school to which children are being transported unless an unusual condition exists that prompts an exception, in writing, by the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, school Principal and approved by the Board of Education.

Responsibilities

- a. The Board of Education is responsible for the efficiency and economy of the school bus system as determined by the selection of bus routes, the scheduling of bus trips and the authorization of bus stops as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and in conformity with the rules governing transportation.
- b. The proper Assistant Superintendent of Schools is responsible for establishing proper standards of safety in the operation of buses and shall ensure their enforcement by the bus operator. When necessary, disputes between the Assistant Superintendent of Schools and the bus operator, relative to the maintenance of proper safety standards, shall be referred to the Board of Education for arbitration.

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Responsibilities (continued)

- c. The proper Assistant Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for execution of the transportation policies and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
- d. Parents are responsible for the safety of their children while walking or riding on vehicles, other than school buses, between home and school or home and an authorized school bus stop.