



School Committee Policy:

#311

School Transportation

The Maynard School Committee will provide for safe, economic and efficient daily transportation of certain students to and from school in accordance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Business Advisor, working in conjunction with the principals, is responsible for scheduling all bus transportation, including determination of routes, bus stops, rules and regulations and all other matters relative to the transportation program. The Police Safety Officer and bus company will be consulted, as appropriate. The program shall be monitored by the principals and Business Advisor, and subject to periodic evaluations as necessary.

Students Eligible for Transportation. The Maynard Public Schools will provide free transportation (1) to all students in Grades K-6 who live 2 or miles from their school and (2) to any student with special needs in Grades K-12 whose IEP or 504 Plan indicates the need for transportation services based upon the students disability. All other students, regardless of the distance of their residence from school, may receive transportation services for a fee.

Transportation Fees. Fees for student transportation will be established on a yearly basis by the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

Family Responsibilities. The law requires the Maynard Public Schools to make available transportation for certain students in Grades K-6 who live two (2) or more miles from school, yet it does not relieve the parents or guardians of any student who is transported from the responsibility of supervision until such time as the student boards the bus in the morning and after the student leaves the bus at the end of the school day. Once the student boards the bus, and only at that time, does he or she become the responsibility of the Maynard Public Schools. Such responsibility shall end when the student disembarks at his or her regular bus stop at the end of the school day.

School Bus Discipline/Appeals. The school bus is an extension of the classroom. Students riding school buses are subject to the Code of Conduct which appears in student/parent handbooks. Bus drivers are required to report misbehavior to the principal/designee who will take appropriate disciplinary action. An action which distracts the driver may endanger all riders on the bus, and will be subject to serious disciplinary action. Students who become a serious

disciplinary problem on the school bus may have their riding privileges suspended by the principal or designee. In such cases, the parents of the children involved become responsible for seeing that their children get to and from school safely. Appeals of school bus discipline follow the appeal procedures described in the Code of Conduct in student/parent handbooks.

Complaints or Concerns About a Bus, Route, Bus Stop or Bus Driver should be brought to the attention of the principal/designee and, if necessary, to the superintendent or designee. The principal or superintendent/designee may involve the Police Safety Officer and/or bus company, if appropriate. If the matter is not resolved, it can be appealed to the Transportation Subcommittee appointed by the Superintendent. Complaints should not be made directly to a driver, to the bus company nor to the School Committee. The School Committee will refer all bus complaints to the process described above.

Date Approved: 1/22/2015

Earlier Version: 2/08, 1/07, 1/02, 3/01, 12/95, 12/93

Cross Reference: Student Handbooks

Legal Reference: M.G.L. 71:7B; 71:68, 90:1-20
