

WALKERS AND RIDERS

Transportation shall be provided for all school children who live beyond such reasonable distances from their school as the School Committee may determine.

In addition, transportation shall be provided for special education students who require transportation to access their program or as determined by the IEP team; Sanford students attending programs at the Sanford Regional Technical Center or similar programs in other school districts requiring transportation; and others, as prescribed by law or deemed advisable by the School Committee.

The following guidelines shall be observed:

Walking Policies

1. Students in grades 1-5 shall walk up to or about 1/2 mile* to their schools.
2. Students in grades 6-12 shall walk up to or about 1-1/2 miles* to their school.

*Specific walking/riding lines may be defined by geographic boundaries

Distances are measured from the nearest school entrance along a reasonable route to home.

Exception to the walking limits may be made by school administration when roads are determined to be unsafe because of hazardous traffic conditions. Requests for exceptions may be made through the Assistant Superintendent.

The police and the highway department shall be notified of the roads used by walkers, and shall be requested to keep these roads as safe as possible by controlling highway speeds and keeping the roads clear of snow, and by providing crossing guards to the extent possible at intersections and main crossing points when school officials and police deem such areas unsafe for normal unsupervised crossing.

Riding Policies

1. Children may be required to walk a reasonable distance to a scheduled bus stop. Students living on outlying roads, where bus routes are not established and where the walking distance to the main road is less than one mile, will walk to the designated bus stop on the main road and be transported from there to their respective schools.
2. Stops will be chosen with concern for numbers and safety of the students involved.
3. Bus drivers shall pick up only at scheduled stops; they shall not admit students not assigned to the particular bus. Drivers are required not to exceed the legal bus capacity.
4. Students shall ride only on assigned buses. At the close of school, they shall be transported only to the original pick-up point, and they shall not be permitted to disembark at other points or to ride other buses unless they have received prior approval, as outlined in EEAA-R.

The school administration may make exceptions where this is in the best interest of the student and the district. Requests for exceptions to the School Committee's transportation policy may be made through the Assistant Superintendent, who shall consider such requests.

Legal References: M.R.S.A. 20-A: 5204; 20-A: 5401 20-A: 5601

Cross Reference: EEAA-R – Walkers and Riders Procedure
EEACC - Student Conduct on School Busses

Revised: November 14, 2013

Adopted: November 18, 2013