

FAIRVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: TRANSPORTATION

ADOPTED: June 20, 1994

REVISED: February 10, 2014

810. TRANSPORTATION	
1. Purpose	The Board of Directors of the Fairview School District has determined that transportation of students promotes goals of safety and timeliness which contribute to the educational program of the district. This policy shall establish parameters for the transportation of students in accordance with the following guidelines.
2. Authority SC 1361, 1362 Title 22 Sec. 23.1, 23.2, 23.4	The Board shall purchase, equip, and maintain vehicles and/or contract for school bus services for the transportation of students to and from school at regularly scheduled hours and for the transportation of students on field trips and athletic trips.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	<p><u>Responsibility Of The Fairview School District</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It shall be the responsibility of the district to provide safe and timely transportation for all students in the district. 2. The district shall be responsible for establishing safe bus routes and bus stops. <p><u>Responsibility Of Parents/Guardians</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to get the children to the bus stop in a timely fashion. Generally, parents/guardians should have students at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled time of arrival by the bus and be prepared to wait up to ten (10) minutes after the stopped time in case the bus is late. 2. Parents/Guardians should also be responsible to dress students appropriately for waiting at the bus stop, taking into consideration the weather conditions. 3. Parents/Guardians should make a reasonable effort to understand and cooperate with those responsible for pupil transportation. 4. It is recommended that parents/guardians accompany K-4 students to the bus stop and wait at the bus stop until the bus has arrived.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 23.4</p>	<p><u>Bus Routes</u></p> <p>The district has the sole responsibility for determination of routes to be taken by school buses and vans. Once these routes have been established and approved by the Board for the designated school year, any deviation from this route for a school bus or van is prohibited except with prior approval of the transportation supervisor.</p>
<p>SC 1362 Title 22 Sec. 23.4</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p><u>School Bus Stops</u></p> <p>The district has the responsibility for the assignment of school bus stops. Parents/Guardians must recognize bus assignments cannot be customized to meet every individual need and still be part of an efficient and economical transportation system. The Public School Code provides that students may be required to walk up to 1 ½ miles (24 P.S. § 1362) unless prohibited from doing so by hazardous walking routes. In establishing school bus stops, the Board intends to balance the interests of the students and parents/guardians as well as the need to provide a safe and efficient transportation system within the time constraints of available staff and equipment.</p> <p><u>Guidelines For The Establishment Of Bus Stops</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Door to door transportation of students cannot be provided to the general student population. Where required, special needs students may be provided with door to door transportation service. 2. School bus stops shall be approved by the Board based upon recommendations of the transportation supervisor which are safe for the loading and unloading of Students. For these purposes, the transportation supervisor shall designate locations for bus stops which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide sufficient site distance for approaching motorists who must stop at the bus stop location. b. Are not located on the grade of a hill, where avoidable. c. Provide adequate waiting areas for children. Students will be required to walk to a bus stop. As a general rule, grades K-4 will be expected to walk approximately 300 feet from their nearest property line; grades 5-8 will be expected to walk approximately five hundred (500) feet from their nearest property line, and grades 9-12 will be expected to walk approximately 800 feet from their nearest property line to an established bus stop, unless provided otherwise in this policy.

3. School buses will not enter cul-de-sacs and dead end streets unless the walking distance from the cul-de-sac or dead end street to a through street is greater than 1,000 feet with a safe and proper turn around for the bus.
4. Exceptions to the parameters for walking distances for students may be made for hazardous walking routes, including Routes 5, 20 and 98.
5. All walking distances will be established by the transportation supervisor based upon the above policy language, the safety of the students, and in accordance with all applicable state regulations and site distance limitations.
6. Establishment of bus stops and walking distances may be modified beyond the limitations provided herein when necessary according to applicable state regulations and to provide safe bus stops.
7. Bus drivers will be required to conform routes to the approved bus routes and bus stops and will not be permitted to deviate from the established bus route or bus stop unless driver has received prior approval from the transportation supervisor as a result of a health or safety hazard.
8. A request for new bus stops will be evaluated by the transportation supervisor from a traffic safety standpoint only, using criteria established by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. In the event the transportation supervisor is unable to make a recommendation and desires assistance, the supervisor will consult with the district Controller.
9. The district cannot always consider factors that are associated with individual family or parental personal situations. To this end, bus stops will not be established so that parents/guardians are able to see their children walking to the bus stop or waiting at the bus stop from individual homes. The district is unable to accommodate individual work schedules or baby-sitting arrangements. Each student will be assigned only one (1) a.m. stop and one (1) p.m. stop. Exceptions will be handled through the principal's office and will require a written approval from the principal's office.
10. It is the intent of the Board that bus stops be established at street intersections whenever possible.

Transportation Guidelines

Title 22
Sec. 23.4

The Superintendent shall promulgate rules governing the number of chaperones to Accompany students in connection with school-related activities.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 23.4</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall prepare a map of the district indicating each bus stop and bus route and will prepare scheduled bus stops and itinerary of bus routes to be used in conjunction with the district map.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 23.1, 23.4</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall maintain such records and make such reports regarding school transportation as required by the State Board of Education.</p>
<p>SC 1374 Title 22 Sec. 23.3</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall ensure that handicapped pupils are assisted appropriately in their transportation needs.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 23.4</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall promulgate rules governing student conduct during transport to and from school, and such rules shall be binding on all students transported by the Board.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 23.4</p>	<p>The school bus drivers shall be responsible for the discipline of students while they are being transported to or from school. A student may be suspended from bus transportation by the building principal for disciplinary reasons, in which case the parents/guardians are responsible for the pupil's transportation.</p>
<p>SC 1361</p>	<p>Transportation of non-public school pupils shall be in accordance with existing state laws and regulations. All such regulations contained in this policy shall apply to non-public school pupils.</p>
	<p>The district may provide transportation for students who possess F-1 visas provided that:</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transportation can be provided without increasing the number of buses utilized by the district in providing pupil transportation and without altering existing bus routes as established by the Board; and 2. The F-1 student pays to the district the full per pupil cost of transportation, the cost of which shall be determined each year by the Business Office and approved by the Board.
	<p><u>Auxiliary Agencies</u></p>
	<p>When the Fairview School District elects to provide transportation, such transportation shall be provided for curricular or extracurricular activities under the provisions of state laws and regulations. The Superintendent, in cooperation with the transportation supervisor, shall administer the operations so as to:</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide for maximum safety of pupils.

<p>Title 67 Sec. 171</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Supplement and reinforce desirable pupil behavior patterns.3. Assist handicap pupils appropriately.4. Enrich the instructional program through carefully planned field trips as recommended by the staff.5. Provide transportation for extracurricular programs. <p>The Board may use the services of transportation companies for extracurricular bus runs and/or other runs as necessary when Fairview School District buses are not available.</p> <p><u>Items Permitted On School Buses</u></p> <p>The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation mandates in Title 67, Chapter 171, that the interior of a school bus must be free of objects which could cause injury. Objects must be secured and the isles and emergency exits cannot be blocked.</p> <p>In an effort to eliminate potentially dangerous situations, the following policy will apply to what students are permitted to carry onto school buses. This Policy has been established in conjunction with bus drivers and administrators to reduce the possibility of accidents on school buses.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Transportation of musical instruments on buses –<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Only small instruments which can be held on the lap or between the knees may be carried onto the bus. This would include violins, violas, flutes, “state” snare drums, trombones, alto saxophones, mellophones, French horns, clarinets, oboes, bongos, trumpets, cornets, percussion kits (bell sets, practice pad) and ukuleles. These are considered small “lap” or “between the knees” instruments. Large saxophones and guitars are allowed for high school students (grades 9-12).b. Guitars, banjos, small and large cellos, bass violins, double basses, sousaphones, large saxophones, tubas, bassoons, E-flat alto’s baritones, “field” snare or bass drums are considered to be too large for on the lap or between the knees and are not allowed on the bus. The driver has the prerogative to refuse to transport large instruments.
------------------------------	---

<p>Pol. 218</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">c. NO INSTRUMENT, SMALL OR OTHERWISE SHALL RESTRICT ACCESS TO FIRE/SAFETY EQUIPMENT, OCCUPY ANY SPACE IN THE AISLE, OR ON A STUDENT SEAT SPACE.d. Instruments are not to be removed from their carrying case while on the way to or from school.e. The school district or its contractors are not responsible for damages to private instruments while on the bus.f. Radios of any size (“Walkman” or “Boxes”) are not permitted on the buses. <p>2. Large and Dangerous Objects –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. No items can be placed in the driver’s compartment, doorway or aisle. These areas must be kept clear to exit in case of emergencies. Nor may items be placed under seats, as they can become projectiles upon impact.b. Animals are not permitted on the bus, the exception being an assigned guide dog (not a guide dog in training).c. Any types of plants or balloons are not permitted on the bus.d. Large school projects or sports equipment are not permitted on the bus unless they can be held on the student’s lap.e. Objects that endanger other students are strictly prohibited. Such objects include, but are not limited to, knives, cutting instruments, nunchakus, firearms, shotguns, rifles, any look-alike knives, matches, glass objects, large metal objects, certain sports equipment that is large and cumbersome, including but not limited to skis, skateboards, or ice skates, unless the ice skates are in an enclosed bag, or material capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. Violation of this rule will result in immediate suspension of bus privileges and may result in other discipline as well.f. No food or beverage is to be consumed while on the bus except on field or extra-curricular trips.
-----------------	---

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 111, 1331, 1361, 1362, 1365, 1366, 1374, 2541, 2542

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 8.1 et seq., 15.1 et seq., 23.1, 23.2, 23.3, 23.4, 23.6

State Department of Transportation Regulations – 67 PA Code Sec. 212.101, 447.1 et seq.

Child Protective Services Law – 23 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6301 et seq.

Diesel-Powered Motor Vehicle Idling Act – 35 P.S. Sec. 4601 et seq.

Transportation of Individuals with Disabilities, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations – 49 CFR Part 37, Part 38

Board Policy – 103, 121, 218, 504