

### **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

The Board will provide transportation for all students living beyond a reasonable distance from their school or from a scheduled bus stop as the Board has determined. This distance is defined as ½ mile for PK-grade 5 students and 1 mile for grades 6-8 and 9-12 students. Students must live on a safe, town-maintained public road that has a suitable bus turn available.

Distance shall be measured by the shortest public road from the residence to the bus stop or school door. In cases questioned, distance will be measured and established by the Superintendent.

Exceptions to the above distance shall be made for the following reasons only:

A. Health

Exceptions to established walking distances may be made for students with disabilities as required by their IEP or Individual Health Plan (504 Plan). Exceptions may also be made to accommodate a student's need for transportation with written documentation for the student's physician.

B. PK and Kindergarten Students

PK and Kindergarten bus service will include pick-up and delivery whenever possible to their drop off point.

C. Hazardous Walking Conditions

Hazardous walking conditions shall be defined as those which would place a child of a given age in a situation of greater than normal or average danger.

Authorized bus stops will be located so as to load and unload students with the most safety allowed by road conditions. The distance between stops may vary according to safety factors. If possible, students will be loaded and unloaded so that it is not necessary for them to cross a main highway to reach their homes. Bus drivers shall pick up only at scheduled stops; they shall not admit students not assigned to the particular bus without authorized permission. Drivers are required not to exceed the legal bus capacity. 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 unless prior authorization has been granted.

Requests for bus stops, inconsistent with this policy must be made in writing and submitted to the Superintendent.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRS § 5401

Cross Reference: JICC- Student Conduct on School Buses

Adopted: July 11, 2017