

5720 - Transportation of Students

2018 5720

Non-Instructional/Business Operations

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

Requests for Transportation to and from Nonpublic Schools

The parent or person in parental relation of a parochial or private school child residing in the School District who desires that the child be transported to a parochial, private, or charter school outside of the School District during the next school year should submit a written request to the Board of Education no later than April 1 of the preceding year, or within 30 days of moving into the District. The District will publish the April 1 date in its school calendar and/or local newspaper as a reminder to parents of this deadline. Late requests of a parent or person in parental relation will not be denied where a reasonable explanation is provided for the delay.

Transportation to Nonpublic Schools on Holidays

The District will share its calendar and start and dismissal times with nonpublic schools before the start of the school year. The District is not required to provide transportation to nonpublic schools on days on which the District's schools are not in session.

Transportation of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities in the District shall be transported up to 50 miles one way from their home to the appropriate special service or program, unless the Commissioner certifies that no appropriate nonresidential special service or program is available within 50 miles. The Commissioner may then establish transportation arrangements.

Pick-up/Drop-off

If the District's Committee on Special Education (CSE) determines a student with a disability qualifies for specialized transportation services, the CSE will indicate that in the student's individualized education program (IEP). In the absence of an indication to that effect in a student's IEP, the District will not provide the student with specialized transportation. When used in a student's IEP, the term "door to door" transportation means the District will pick-up/drop-off the student at the end of a student's driveway (i.e., where the driveway intersects with the road), unless the District's Transportation Department makes a determination that such a pick-up/drop-off location is not safe. "Door to door" transportation does not mean the District will pick-up/drop-off a student with a disability at the physical door of his or her home.

The District will not transport a student with disability down his or her driveway unless the student's parent or person in parental relation makes a request for that accommodation in writing, signs a liability waiver, and the District's Transportation Department determines traversing the student's driveway would not pose an unreasonable safety risk. In those situations, the student's parent or person in parental relation is responsible for maintaining the driveway in a safe condition, and is responsible for clearing it

of ice and snow. In those situations, the District also maintains the right not to traverse the student's driveway on a particular day if the Transportation Department or a representative of same determines it is unsafe.

Student Information

Any vehicle used on a regular basis to transport students with disabilities on a regularly scheduled route will maintain the following information about each student being transported:

- a) Student's name;
- b) Nature of the student's disability;
- c) Name of the student's parent, guardian or person in parental relation and one or more telephone numbers where that person can be reached in an emergency; and/or
- d) Name and telephone number of any other person designated by such parent, guardian or person in parental relation as a person who can be contacted in an emergency.

Such information will be used solely for the purpose of contacting such student's parent, guardian, person in parental relation, or designee in the event of an emergency involving the student, will be kept in a manner which retains the privacy of the student, and will not be accessible to any person other than the driver or another responsible adult acting in a supervisory capacity. In the event that the driver or the other responsible adult is incapacitated, this information may be accessed by any emergency service provider.

This information will be updated as needed, but at least once each school year, and shall be destroyed if parental consent is revoked and/or the student no longer attends the school or the disability no longer exists.

Transportation for Nonpublic School Students with Disabilities who are Parentally Placed

The school district of location is responsible for providing special education services, including, as applicable, arranging and providing transportation necessary for the student to receive those special education services, for students with disabilities ages 5-21 who are parentally placed in nonpublic schools outside their district of residency, if the services are to be provided to a student at a site other than the nonpublic school. The school district of residence remains responsible to provide transportation to/from the parentally placed nonpublic school.

Fire Extinguishers

School buses manufactured on or after January 1, 1990 fueled with other than diesel fuel and used to transport three or more students who use wheelchairs or other assistive mobility devices or with a total capacity of more than eight passengers and used to transport such students will be equipped with an automatic engine fire extinguishing system.

School buses manufactured on or after September 1, 2007 fueled with diesel fuel and used to transport three or more students who use wheelchairs or other assistive mobility devices or with a total capacity of more than eight passengers used to transport such students will be equipped with an automatic engine fire extinguishing system. School buses will also be equipped with at least one hand fire extinguisher in the event of an emergency.

Transportation of Non-Resident Students

Non-resident families must provide their own transportation.

Transportation to School-Sponsored Events

Where the District has provided transportation to students enrolled in the District to a school-sponsored field trip, extracurricular activity or any other similar event, it will provide transportation back to either the point of departure or to the appropriate school in the District unless the parent or legal guardian of a student participating in such event has provided the District with written notice, consistent with District policy, authorizing an alternative form of return transportation for such student or unless intervening circumstances make such transportation impractical. In cases where intervening circumstances make transportation of a student back to the point of departure or to the appropriate school in the District impractical, a representative of the School District will remain with the student until the student's parent or legal guardian has been contacted and informed of the intervening circumstances and the student has been delivered to his or her parent or legal guardian.

Transportation in Personal Vehicles

Personal vehicles of District staff will not be used to transport students except in the event of extenuating circumstances and authorized by the administration.

Transportation to Care Givers Other Than Student's Home

The District will transport students K through 12 to regular long-term day care providers with the following provisions:

- a) The District will only provide transportation to day care providers located within the District's mileage requirements and located on an established bus route.
- b) The parents must complete the form available in the school offices.
- c) Parents who wish to have a temporary arrangement or who change plans during the school year will be accommodated, providing space is available on the bus and that the pick-up or discharge point is on a regularly established route.

Other Transportation Requests

The School District will not transport students to parties, overnights or youth group activities, i.e., Cub Scouts, Boys Scouts, Girls Scouts, 4-H, etc.

Emergencies

Emergencies will be considered by the building administrator either in writing or phone call. Bus drivers are not authorized to allow students who are not regular riders onto their bus without written consent by the building administrator and/or attendance officers.

Transportation on Private Roads

The Board of Education will exercise its sole discretion in approving any bus route which utilizes a private road. Requests for transportation must be submitted to the Board of Education in writing. For purposes of this section, a "private road" is path that is used for the transportation of vehicles, but is not maintained by any municipal jurisdiction.

Education Law §§ 1604, 1709, 1804, 1807, 1903, 1950, 2503, 2554, 2590-e, 3621(15), 3623-a(2c), 3635,

4401(4), 4404, and 4405

Vehicle and Traffic Law § 375(20)(1) and 375(21-i)

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7131 -- Education of Students in Temporary Housing

Adopted: 4/11/11

Revised: 12/18/17; 12/17/18