

POLICY

T/EB

2010

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Non-Instructional/Business
Operations

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

Transportation to District Classes

The District shall provide bus transportation to and from schools within the City of Tonawanda for students in accordance with the following conditions:

- a) Those children in grades K through 5 who reside in excess of .5 miles from their school of regular attendance shall receive District provided transportation to and from school.
- b) Those children in grades 6 through 8 who reside in excess of 1.0 miles from their school of regular attendance shall receive District provided transportation to and from school.
- c) Those children in grades 9 through 12 who reside in excess of 1.5 miles from their school of regular attendance shall receive District provided transportation to and from school.
- d) Students with disabilities will be provided transportation based on the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education. (See also, "Transportation of Students with Disabilities.")
- e) All students eligible for transportation will be bused to and from their school from one or two assigned pick up and drop off point(s) near their residence(s) as long as both residences are within their school attendance zone.
- f) No drugs or alcohol shall be permitted on the buses and violators may be deprived of the privilege of transportation in accordance with applicable due process rights.

Transportation to Nonpublic Schools on Holidays

When a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the Board of Education may choose to close on Friday or Monday in observance of the holiday. -However, if the District has not shared its calendar and informed nonpublic schools that it will not transport on the optional holiday, the District is required to provide pupil transportation services on that day to nonpublic schools that are open.

Transportation for Nonpublic School Students with Disabilities who are Parentally Placed

For students with disabilities (ages 5 through 21) who are parentally placed in nonpublic schools outside their district of residency, if special education services are to be provided to a student at a site other than the nonpublic school, the school district of location is responsible for providing the special education services, including, as applicable, arranging and providing transportation necessary for the student to receive special education services. The proportionate share of IDEA Part B dollars could be used for such purpose.

The school district of residence remains responsible to provide transportation to parentally placed nonpublic school students from the student's home to the nonpublic school.

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Non-Instructional/Business
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SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS (Cont'd.)

Transportation of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities in the District shall be transported up to fifty (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 fifty (50) miles. The Commissioner may then establish transportation arrangements.

Student Information

Any mode of transportation used on a regular basis to transport students with a disability on a regularly scheduled route shall, upon written consent of the parent or person in parental relation, have maintained on such mode of transportation 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 a position of loco parentis (person in parental relation) and one or more telephone numbers where such 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 a position of loco parentis as a person who can be contacted in an emergency.

Such information shall be used solely for the purpose of contacting such student's parent, guardian, person in a position of loco parentis, or designee in the event of an emergency involving the student, shall be kept in a manner which retains the privacy of the student, and shall not be accessible to any person other than the driver or a teacher acting in a supervisory capacity. In the event that the driver or teacher is incapacitated, such information may be accessed by any emergency service provider for such purpose. Such information shall be updated as needed, but at least once each school year and shall be destroyed if parental consent is revoked, the student no longer attends such school, or the disability no longer exists.

Herein the term "disability" shall mean a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the student, whether of a temporary or permanent nature.

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Non-Instructional/Business
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SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS (Cont'd.)

Fire Extinguishers

School buses manufactured on or after January 1, 1990 fueled with other than diesel fuel or buses manufactured on or after September 1, 2007 fueled with diesel fuel either of which are ~~and~~ used to transport three (3) or more students who use wheelchairs or other assistive mobility devices or with a total capacity of more than eight (8) passengers and used to transport such students shall be equipped with an automatic engine fire extinguishing system. The purchase of automatic engine fire extinguishing systems for school buses used to transport such students shall be deemed a proper school district expense.

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 shall 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 District shall remain with the student until such student's parent or legal guardian has been contacted and informed of the intervening circumstances which make such transportation impractical; and the student has been delivered to his/her parent or legal guardian.

Transportation in Personal Vehicles

Personal cars of teachers and staff shall not be used to transport students except in the event of extenuating circumstances and authorized by the administration.

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Non-Instructional/Business
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SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS (Cont'd.)

Education Law Sections 1604, 1709, 1804, 1903, 1950, 2503, 2554, 2590-e, 3242, 3602-c, 3621(15),
3623-a(2c), 3635, 4401-a, 4401(4), 4402, 4404, 4405, and 4410-6
Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 375(20)(1) and 375(21-i)

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #5721 -- Transportation to/from Child Care Centers and Locations
#5722 -- Transportation in Child Safety Zones
#7131 -- Education of Homeless Children and Youth

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