

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The major purpose of school transportation is to get students to school and back, in an efficient, safe, and economical manner. Other purposes include the provision of transportation for academic field trips in direct support of the curriculum and transportation for support of the co-curricular program (athletics, music, drama, and so on).

District owned buses may be provided by the Board for the transportation of students to and from school. The transportation of students with special needs or who require prolonged assistance will be in accordance with the specifications of their Individual Educational Plans and will be arranged by the transportation supervisor. However, as it may be impractical to transport certain special education students by regular bus, they may be transported by other conveyance.

The transportation supervisor, working in conjunction with school principals and under the supervision of the superintendent, will be responsible for the day to day operation of the school transportation system and the scheduling and routing of all buses, bus stops, and all regulations of the program.

Vehicles owned by the Board will be operated by authorized school employees or Board approved drivers. These drivers must meet all state requirements for licensing and hold the appropriate licensure for the vehicle they are driving. Seat belts shall be used in school vehicles when provided.

Students in grades K-8 whose residence is outside the incorporated limits of Newell and who live more than 5 miles from the school either will receive bus service or mileage payments at the state rate for the number of miles in excess of 5 miles to and from school. Under no circumstance will the District pay mileage payments to students in grades 9-12.

Students in grades K-8 living more than 5 miles from the bus pick up point to which they are assigned will receive mileage payments at the state rate for the number of miles in excess of 5 miles to and from the pick-up point.

The District may not provide transportation to students in grades K-8 living within 5 miles of the school. Also, the District will not provide transportation for students in grades 9-12 unless it has been approved by the administration. Determinations for students within 5 miles of the school and those in grades 9-12 will be made on a case by case basis and will depend on available space and established bus routes.

The above policy applies only to students with legal residence in the Newell School District who attend Newell Schools. It does not apply to non-resident students attending school in Newell through open enrollment, or to resident students attending school in other districts through open enrollment. The families of those students will be responsible for their own transportation.

Evaluation: The school transportation program will be monitored by the principals and the transportation supervisor daily and subjected to periodic evaluations as necessary. An overall evaluation will be conducted by the transportation supervisor on or before November 1 and June 15 of each school year and a summary report of same submitted to the superintendent and the Board.

The transportation supervisor will evaluate each driver through riding at least one route per semester.

Legal Reference: SDCL 3-9-1; 13-29-19; 13-30-1; 13-30-3

Cross References:

Adopted: August, 2010

Revised: August 8, 2011

July 9, 2012