

Book	Policy Manual
Section	800 Operations
Title	Transportation
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Purpose

The Board shall provide transportation for students in accordance with law, regulations and Board policy. ~~The district's transportation program shall be provided in accordance with established guidelines, which:~~
~~[1][1][19][30][18]~~

- ~~1. Provide for the maximum safety of students.~~
- ~~2. Supplement and reinforce appropriate student behavior.~~
- ~~3. Assist students with disabilities appropriately.[5][6]~~
- ~~4. Enrich the instructional program through carefully planned curricular trips, as recommended by the staff and approved by the Board.[7]~~
- ~~5. May provide transportation for extracurricular activities.[8][9]~~

Definitions

~~School bus means a motor vehicle that is designed to carry eleven (11) passengers or more, including the driver, and is used for the transportation of preprimary, primary or secondary school students to or from public, private or parochial schools or events related to such schools or school-related activities.[1]~~

~~School vehicle means a motor vehicle, except a motorcycle, designed for carrying no more than ten (10) passengers, including the driver, and used for the transportation of preprimary, primary or secondary school students while registered by or under contract to the school district. The term includes vehicles having chartered, group and party rights under the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and used for the transportation of school children.[1]~~

Authority

~~The Board shall provide transportation for resident students in grades kindergarten through 12 to the district's public schools and charter, regional charter and nonpublic schools located in the district or within the district's transportation boundary or other placements as required by law or agreements. The district's transportation boundary is a distance not exceeding ten (10) miles by the nearest public highway outside the school district's border.~~
~~[2][3][4]~~

The Board shall purchase, lease, equip, and maintain school buses/vehicles and/or contract for school bus/vehicle services for transportation ~~services, if the Board determines that it is in the best interest of the district and such services meet the requirements of the Board. Such services shall be for the~~

~~transportation~~ of students to and from school at regularly scheduled hours and for field trips and extracurricular activities. [2][3][5][6][7][8][9][10][11][11][19][30][18]

~~The Board directs the administration to comply with all federal and state laws and regulations to ensure maximum student safety.~~ [10]

The Board shall provide transportation for students living within the prescribed limits for walking to school when walking conditions to the school are found to be hazardous by the Department of Transportation. [11][12]

The Board shall provide transportation for transport students with disabilities, without regard to distance or hazardous walking conditions, when required by the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Service Agreement. [12][13][14][15][16][5]

The Board shall provide transportation for transport eligible resident students who are enrolled in nonpublic schools or charter schools as required ~~within the distance prescribed~~ by law. [1]

The Board shall provide transportation for children in foster care in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations, and the local transportation plan. [18][19]

The Board shall provide transportation for homeless children and youths in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations and local transportation plan. [20][21]

The Board prohibits any diesel-powered motor vehicle weighing 10,001 pounds or more to idle for more than five (5) minutes in any continuous sixty-minute period while parked, loading or unloading, except as allowed by law. [22][16]

The Board shall ensure that permanent signs, notifying drivers of the idling restrictions, are maintained on district property at locations where diesel-powered motor vehicles weighing 10,001 pounds or more load or unload. Signs shall also be posted at locations that provide fifteen (15) or more parking spaces for such diesel-powered motor vehicles. [23][24][17]

Delegation of Responsibility

The school bus/vehicle driver shall be responsible to maintain order while students are being transported.

The school bus/vehicle driver shall report all incidents, including, but not limited to, discipline problems, medical problems, bullying/harassment, safety issues, accidents or injuries, and violations of Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law to the Superintendent or designee as soon as practicable.

The building principal may suspend a student from bus transportation for disciplinary reasons, and the parents/guardians shall be responsible for the student's transportation. [7]

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to:

1. Maintain records and make required reports regarding school transportation. [5][7]
2. Distribute rules governing student conduct during transport; such rules shall be binding on all students transported by the district. [7]
3. **Provide each school bus/school vehicle driver with:**

1. **The Pennsylvania School Bus Driver's Manual;**
 2. **The written rules for student conduct on buses/vehicles;**
 3. **The procedures for evacuation drills; and**
 4. **Any additional laws and applicable Board policies and administrative regulations which apply to school bus/vehicle drivers.**
4. Establish administrative regulations that specify the number of chaperones to accompany students in connection with school-related activities and field trips. [7][25]
 5. Prepare a district map or schedule indicating each bus stop and bus route. [7]

Guidelines

Student Health Information

When necessary for student safety, or when required by a student's IEP or Section 504 Service Agreement, a school bus/vehicle driver shall be provided with relevant student health and medical information. [16][26][27][28][29]

School bus/vehicle drivers shall maintain the confidentiality of student health/medical information in accordance with district policies and procedures and applicable law. [30][31]

Evacuation Drills

Bus evacuation drills shall be conducted twice a year and reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, in accordance with law and Board policy. [32][33][34]

~~The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to:~~

- ~~1. Establish administrative regulations that specify the number of chaperones to accompany students in connection with school-related activities and field trips.~~ [18][7]
- ~~2. Establish administrative regulations and prepare a district map or schedule indicating each bus stop and bus route, which ensure safe, efficient and economical student transportation, in accordance with applicable law and regulations.~~ [18]
- ~~3. Maintain records and make required reports regarding school transportation.~~ [19][18]
- ~~4. Establish administrative regulations concerning student conduct and distribute rules governing student conduct during transport; such rules shall be binding on all students transported by the district.~~ [18]

~~The Superintendent or designee shall report at least annually to the Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee concerning the district's student transportation activities. The Committee shall make recommendations to the Board for any official action that may be necessary. The Director of Buildings, Grounds and Transportation shall ensure that school transportation vehicles are maintained in a clean and mechanically sound operating condition at all times.~~ [20]

Guidelines

Student Discipline

~~The school transportation driver shall be responsible for the discipline of students while they are being transported.~~

~~Discipline for misbehavior may range from temporary loss of bus privileges to exclusion from school, including all other disciplinary measures authorized in Board policy. Due process shall be provided to students, in accordance with law, regulations and Board policy.~~ [18][21][22]

~~The principal may suspend a student from student transportation for disciplinary reasons, and the parents/guardians shall be responsible for the student's transportation.~~ [18]

Students With Disabilities

~~The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to ensure the safety of students with disabilities while being transported to and from school.[13][14][5][6]~~

~~When it has been determined that the student is unable to care for his/her own safety when leaving the school transportation vehicle, the parent/guardian shall meet the student.~~

~~In the event that the parent/guardian does not meet the school transportation vehicle, the student shall be transported to his/her school, where the parent/guardian must pick up the student. After coordinated efforts to contact parents have failed, Children and Youth Services will be called. Parents/Guardians shall be responsible for any additional transportation costs resulting from implementation of this policy. Repeated disregard for this policy by parents/guardians may indicate improper supervision and planning and will result in a formal referral to Children and Youth Services.~~

~~Parents/Guardians of students with disabilities should make available, upon district request, information pertaining to their student that will ensure safe transportation for the student.~~

~~Bus drivers of students with disabilities shall be given appropriate information to ensure safe transportation of the students.~~

School Transportation Drivers

~~In order to ensure the safety of district students during transportation to and from the school and school-related activities, the district shall verify driver qualifications with the transportation contractor prior to commencement of services each school year. Every driver transporting students shall meet the necessary qualifications in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy.[1][23]~~

~~A school transportation driver shall not be employed until s/he has complied with the mandatory background check requirements for criminal history and child abuse and the district and contractor have evaluated the results of that screening process.[24][25][26]~~

~~The Board directs the Director of Buildings, Grounds and Transportation to verify school transportation driver qualifications prior to the commencement of services each school year.~~

Reports of Employee Crimes/Child Abuse

~~District drivers and the district's transportation contract carriers shall be responsible to inform the district in writing whether or not they or any of their employees:~~

- ~~1. Have been charged, subsequent to approval as a district bus driver, with a criminal offense that would bar their employment as drivers or as drivers for contracted service providers.~~
- ~~2. Were charged with a crime deemed serious under the criteria established by law.[24]~~
- ~~3. Have been charged with or convicted of crimes that affect their suitability to have direct contact with students.~~

~~This responsibility is in addition to the requirement for clearances that must be presented to the district when an individual is initially hired by the district or the contract carriers.[27]~~

~~The district and contract carriers shall have procedures in place to ensure they are notified by their employees when the employees are charged with crimes or child abuse. The procedures shall also include the provision that the failure on the part of employees to make such a timely notification may subject them to disciplinary action, including termination.[28][29]~~

~~If any school transportation drivers have been charged as stated in this policy, the transportation contract carriers shall, include the name of the employee, nature of the offense, and the status of the disposition. The district will review this information to determine if the employee shall continue to transport district students.~~

Transportation to Day Care Facilities/Baby Sitting Services

~~The Board may permit transportation of students to day care facilities or baby sitting services, which are locations other than the student's own residence, on already established routes when there is no additional cost to the district, in accordance with established criteria. The Transportation Department shall establish criteria for the transportation of students to and from day care facilities and baby sitting services.~~

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 1361
5. Pol. 103.1
6. Pol. 113
7. Pol. 121
8. Pol. 122
9. Pol. 123
10. Pol. 805
11. 24 P.S. 1362
12. 67 PA Code 447.1 et seq
13. 24 P.S. 1374
14. 22 PA Code 23.3
15. Pol. 103
16. 35 P.S. 4601 et seq
17. 67 PA Code 212.101
18. 22 PA Code 23.4
19. 22 PA Code 23.1
20. 67 PA Code 171.1 et seq
21. Pol. 218
22. Pol. 233
23. 67 PA Code 71.1 et seq
24. 24 P.S. 111
25. 22 PA Code 8.1 et seq
26. 23 Pa. C.S.A. 6301 et seq
27. Pol. 304
28. Pol. 317
29. Pol. 818
30. 22 PA Code 23.2
- 24 P.S. 1312
- 24 P.S. 1331
- 24 P.S. 1365
- 24 P.S. 1366
- 24 P.S. 2541
- 24 P.S. 2542
- 22 PA Code 15.1 et seq
- 22 PA Code 23.6
- 49 CFR Part 37
- 49 CFR Part 38
- Pol. 000

