

## **Transportation of Pupils**

The district's transportation program shall comply in all ways with state law and regulation. State moneys allocated to the district for student transportation shall be spent only for student transportation activities. Transportation services of the district may include approved bus routes, district-approved field trips, school activities (participants only) and extracurricular activities (rooters). Students will be transported on yellow buses.

### **1. Authorization**

The district has authorized transportation to and from school for a student:

- 1.1 whose residence is beyond the one (1) mile radius from the school to which the student is assigned;
- 1.2 whose walking route to school is hazardous, regardless of distance;
- 1.3 whose handicapping condition prevents him/her from walking, or if he/she would not be able to provide for his/her own welfare while walking to school; or
- 1.4 who has any other compelling and legally sufficient reason to receive transportation services.

The parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student whose assigned bus stop is beyond the minimum walking distance may receive reimbursement for private transportation at the state mileage reimbursement rate when sufficient district equipment is not available, or when unusual disabling problems exist.

The superintendent shall have the authority to modify transportation services for school and extracurricular activities when the available fuel supply for regular transportation services appears to fall below the required level.

The Board of Directors may authorize children who are attending an approved private school to ride a school bus, provided that the bus route and stops are not altered, space is available, and a fee to cover the per seat cost for such transportation is collected.

The seat cost fee will be calculated annually to reflect actual costs. Any staff member may request denial of transportation to any student who violates the district's written rules and regulations.

### **2. Student Walking Distance**

A student may be provided transportation when his/her residence is beyond one (1) radius mile of the school to which the student is assigned.

A student with disabilities who is unable to walk or would not be able to provide for his/her own welfare while walking to school shall be provided transportation services regardless of the distance from home to school.

The school district is required to establish walking route plans for each elementary school which enrolls students who walk to and from school.

Students may be required to walk up to one (1) radius mile from their home to their bus stop, provided that the walking route is safe as described in the state's publication *Guidelines for Determining the Existence of Hazardous Walking Conditions*, OSPI. The district will apply and review the state rules annually.

### **3. Routes and Schedules**

The director of transportation shall be responsible for scheduling bus transportation, including the determination of routes and bus stops as well as overseeing the transportation program; see policy and procedure 6602.

### **4. Emergency Bus Routes and Schedules**

The director of transportation shall develop emergency bus routes and schedules to be used when weather or other emergency conditions make the usual routes impassable or, in his/her judgment, too hazardous; see policy 6604.

The board directs the superintendent to prepare appropriate regulations to implement this policy.

#### **Cross References:**

(cf.: 2320 – Field Trips and Excursions)

(cf.: 3131 – District Enrollment and Effects)

(cf.: 3200 – Student Rules, Regulations and Conduct)

(cf.: 3431 – Emergency Treatment)

(cf.: 3434 – Bomb Threats and other Life Threatening Emergencies)

(cf.: 3435 – Emergency Situation: Evacuation of Schools)

(cf.: 6602 – Bus Routes and Schedules)

(cf.: 6604 – Emergency Bus Routes and Schedules)

(cf.: 6605 – Student Rules of Conduct on Buses)

Legal References:

- RCW 28A.160.100 School buses, transportation of general public to interscholastic activities-  
limitations
- RCW 28A.160.010 Operation of student transportation program –Responsibility of local district  
–Scope –Transportation of elderly –Insurance
- RCW 28A.160.115 Bus Routes
- WAC 392-141-175 Hazardous walking conditions
- WAC 392-171-310 Definitions of "free, appropriate, public education"
- WAC 392-171-706 Transportation ("student with disabilities")
- WAC 392-151-025 Route plans
- WAC 392-144 School Bus Driver Qualifications

*Guidelines for Determining the Existence of Hazardous Walking Conditions, OSPI.*

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