

EEA - STUDENT TRANSPORT SERVICES

Category: Recommended

Related Policies: ECEF, EEA-R, EEAE, EEAE-R, EEAEA, EEAEA-R, EEAG, EEAG-R, JICC, & JICK

A. General Operating Policy.

The District will make available transportation services to all regular education resident students grades K-12, who live at least 2 miles from their assigned school.

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, will fulfill the duties of Transportation Coordinator as described in this and other applicable Board policies.

Residency is determined under RSA 193:12. For children with parents/guardians residing in separate households, residency will be determined pursuant to RSA 193:12, I (a)(2) and, when applicable, parenting plans established under RSA 461-A. In such circumstances, the District is not required to provide transportation beyond the designated attendance area for the school to which the child is assigned, or beyond the geographical limits of the school district in which the child resides. Parents/guardians in such circumstances should contact the Superintendent's office with any questions or requests for special accommodations.

Pupils who attend chartered public or non-public schools shall be entitled to the same transportation privileges within the District as are provided for pupils in public school using the same routes and termination points as are established for students attending the District's schools, consistent with RSA 194-B:2, V. Drivers may not load or unload pupils at other than authorized bus stops.

The District shall also provide transportation to, and pay transportation costs for, all students who reside in the District and attend a regional career and technical education center, or who attend an alternative program at a regional career and technical education center or other comprehensive high school. The Superintendent is responsible for recovering such transportation costs per RSA 188-E:8.

B. Establishment and Appeal of Routes, Schedules and Stops

The Superintendent or his /her designee will establish bus routes, schedules and stops. Routes will be developed annually and posted.

The purpose of bus scheduling shall be to achieve maximum service with a minimum fleet of buses consistent with rendering equitable service to all eligible students. The measure of service rendered shall be the total time between leaving a bus stop in the morning and returning thereto in the afternoon on a regular bus trip. To the greatest extent possible, routes, schedules and stops will minimize and balance the time students spend on buses. However, priority in distance to stops will be given to younger children.

Parents who wish to request a change or exemption from any of the Board transportation policies, including bus routes or bus stops, may engage in the request and appeal process detailed in EEA-R.

C. Authorized Transportation Providers

The District authorizes students to be transported to school or school activities via school bus drivers, and to school activities via contracted carriers. See Policy EEAE for details.

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All other authorized transportation of students must be in accordance with Policy EEAG.

D. Student Conduct on School Buses

Bus drivers have the responsibility to maintain orderly behavior of students on school buses and will report, in writing, misconduct to the student's Principal.

Student conduct while on District transportation is regulated in accordance with Board policy JICC, and any District or school rules implementing the same. See the District's School Bus Conduct Rules included in the Student Handbook.

The Board authorizes the use of video and/or audio devices consistent with applicable law and School Board policies. Notwithstanding other Board policies, the Superintendent is authorized to allow video and/or audio recordings to the extent allowed by applicable law and in accordance with Board policies ECAF and JICK.

Students who violate regulations for student conduct within those policies may have bus riding privileges suspended. Such suspensions are in addition to other interventions or disciplinary consequences provided under the Student Code of Conduct and such other applicable Board policies and District or school rules and regulations. Parents/guardians may appeal transportation suspensions per Board policy JICC and accompanying administrative procedures.

District Policy History:

First Reading: September 14, 2010, June 11, 2024

Second Reading: October 12, 2010, June 25, 2024

Final Adoption: October 12, 2010, June 25, 2024

Revised: June 25, 2024

Legal References:

RSA 189:6, Transportation of Pupils

RSA 189:8, Limitations and Additions

RSA 189:9, Pupils in Private Schools

RSA 189:9-a, Pupils Prohibited for Disciplinary Reasons

Legal References Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be considered part of this policy, nor should they be taken as a comprehensive statement of the legal basis for the Board to enact this policy, nor as a complete recitation of related legal authority. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.