

Regulation

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND SERVICES

I. PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

Transportation shall be provided under the rules and regulations set forth by the State Department of Education, Bureau of Transportation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 and the policy and regulations of the Northern Valley Regional High School Board of Education.

Free transportation shall be provided for all kindergarten through grade 8 pupils who live over two miles from school, and all high school pupils living over two and one-half miles from school, and for pupils suffering from physical or organic defects as certified by a doctor or as otherwise provided by law, state regulation, or court decree. Free busing will also be provided for all after-school activities.

II. MILEAGE LIMITS

Measurement of distance shall be made by the shortest route along public roadways or walkways from the entrance of the pupil's residence nearest such public roadway or walkway to the nearest public entrance of the assigned school.

III. ROUTES AND STOPS

- A. Routes shall be arranged so that vehicles will traverse the streets which will serve the largest number of pupils safely within a reasonable time limit and at minimum cost.
 - 1. Vehicles shall at no time be required to traverse lanes or unpaved roads.
 - 2. Routes may be changed at any time to more efficiently serve conditions that may prevail at the time; however, parents/guardians shall be informed of any pending change in route which affects their youngster in any way before change is made.
- B. Unacceptable hazardous routes and stops shall be determined and designated by the board of education acting upon the recommendations of the chief school administrator. Such recommendations should be developed by the transportation department which shall survey the routes and/or stops annually using criteria for unacceptable hazardous conditions set up by the board and administration. In its survey, the transportation department should use as resources the Traffic Safety Division of the local police departments as well as any other individuals, agencies or organizations that the transportation department may judge to be appropriate. All such busing is subject to VII, Subscription Busing.
- C. Stops shall be established as pick up and drop off" points and pupils shall be assigned to these stops.
 - 1. Buses shall adhere as nearly as possible to the time schedule established by the transportation department and in no instance shall buses run earlier than the established schedule requires.
 - 2. Pupils shall be expected to be on time to meet the bus at the assigned stop.
 - 3. The board of education shall not be responsible for property damage at bus stops.
 - 4. All questions of safety at a stop will be the responsibility of the transportation department which may consult with the Traffic Safety Department of the local police departments to make recommendations to the chief school administrator for change.

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND SERVICES (regulation continued)

5. Bus stops may be changed at any time to more efficiently serve conditions that prevail at the time; however, parents/guardians must be notified of any pending change before the change is made.

IV. ASSIGNMENT OF PUPILS

- A. Prior to the opening of school in September, pupils shall be assigned to a specific bus and a specific bus stop and shall board and leave buses only at these assigned stops.
- B. Pupils who are not eligible for bussing may not ride a school district bus or a bus contracted by the board of education except for school related educational purposes.
- C. Pupils who request to ride a bus other than the one to which they have been assigned may do so ONLY if the following procedure is followed:
 1. A note from the parents/guardians of that pupil has been received by the principal.
 2. The principal or transportation department has determined that there is an extra seat on that bus.
 3. The principal has initialed the note and forwarded it to the driver of the bus.
 4. The principals are asked to discourage such requests.
- D. Pupils who miss the bus to school must make their own arrangements to get to school; and, elementary pupils who miss the bus from school must report to the main office.

V. TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

The transportation department shall be responsible for the supervision and continuous appraisal of the district's transportation in accordance with safety of pupils, legal requirements, and economy.

The chief school administrator shall annually review the transportation needs of the district and shall have the responsibility to make recommendations to the board for the efficient operation of a system of transportation with regard to: special education; vocational education; hazardous routes; and, educational programs that warrant special considerations.

VI. WALKERS

It is the parents'/guardians' and local government's responsibility to see that pupils get to and from school safely and on time. This also applies to pupils who remain after school for school sponsored programs or events. Elementary school pupils who planned to stay at an event or participate in a program, who for whatever reason do not attend the event and/or program, must report to the main office prior to leaving school.

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