

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

Background

The School District has a significant number of students travelling to and from school utilizing school buses. The following principles shall apply:

- Student safety is a major consideration. Student misbehaviour on school buses causes distraction to the driver, which in turn endangers the safety of all students on the bus and others on the road.
- Students are under the authority of their Principal when travelling to and from school and or to any school function and are expected to obey the instructions of the driver.
- Clearly defined and publicized bus routes and transportation limits and procedures, provide for greater public understanding and effective service in terms of efficiency and cost.

Procedures

1. Student Bus Transportation Limits

- 1.1. The Ministry of Education does not mandate School districts to provide school bus transportation.
- 1.2. The School District procedures with respect to bus transportation is as follows:
 - 1.2.1. Subject to available seating space, school bus transportation may be provided for:
 - 1.2.1.1. Kindergarten to Grade 7 students who live beyond 1.6 kilometres from school;
 - 1.2.1.2. Grade 8 - 12 students who live beyond 4.0 kilometres from school.

2. School Bus Loading and Unloading Procedures

- 2.1. Wherever possible, bus stops are located in areas where the school bus can pull completely off the road onto the shoulder to pick up or discharge students. In this case, red flashing lights are not used.
- 2.2. Where it is not possible for the procedure in clause 1.1 above to be followed, the bus will stop on the roadway, using red flashing lights to stop all traffic.
- 2.3. In both of the above cases, students are required to proceed as follows:
 - 2.3.1. For pick-up: Be at the bus stop five minutes prior to arrival of the bus. If crossing a highway is required, students are not to do so after the bus has arrived at the stop.

2.3.2. For discharge: Students are to discharge from the bus and wait for the bus to leave the stop. If the students are required to cross the roadway, they must wait for all traffic to be cleared before doing so.

3. Transportation of Students to Child Care

3.1. The School District will provide transportation for students between their school and their place of child care provided that:

3.1.1. The student travels to their place of child care on a regular basis; and

3.1.2. There is an available seat on the bus they wish to ride.

3.2. Priority will be given in the following order:

3.2.1. To students travelling to a place of child care that is on the same bus route the student would normally take to their home;

3.2.2. To students who are normally bused to school in the morning;

3.2.3. To other students.

3.3. Parents may request such transportation for their children by submitting to the School Board Office a completed Registration for School Bus Transportation form. Requests are valid for the school year in which they are submitted, and must be renewed at the beginning of each school year.

3.4. The Director of Operations, in consultation with the school bus contractor, will consider each request on the basis of compliance with the above criteria and notify the parent making the request whether or not it has been approved. All requests will be retained by the Director of Operations for the duration of the school year.

4. School Bus Shelters

4.1. Upon the request of a parent, group of parents, or parents' advisory council, for a shelter for bus students, the Secretary-Treasurer will investigate the situation and may authorize the supply of materials for the construction of such bus shelter, provided that the parent or parent group concerned sign the form of application and undertaking as approved under this Administrative Procedure

Reference: Sections 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act
Society Act
School Regulation 265/89

Adopted: December 18, 2001
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