

TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT

The school district shall purchase transportation vehicles which meet the requirements of the board and the Iowa Department of Education. The purchase of such vehicles shall be in compliance with board policy.

School district student transportation vehicles shall be inspected by the Iowa Department of Education. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to arrange for the inspection of the school district transportation vehicles requiring inspection and to develop a program for routine maintenance of school district vehicles.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 285.10(3) (2005).
281 I.A.C. 43.30-.31, .41.

Cross Reference: 705.4 Purchasing - Bidding
711 Transportation

Approved _____

Reviewed May 2012

Revised

SCHOOL VEHICLE ROUTES

The board shall annually approve and review the school district bus routes. It shall be the responsibility of the transportation director to develop the school bus routes keeping in mind the safety of the students, the size of the school buses, the length of the route, the cost to the school district, and other factors deemed relevant by the superintendent. The transportation director shall also develop emergency school bus routes that may be necessary due to weather or other conditions.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 285.10-.11 (2005).
281 I.A.C. 43.1-.2.

Cross Reference: 711 Transportation

Approved _____

Reviewed May 2012

Revised _____

DISCRETIONARY STOPS BY SCHOOL VEHICLES

The school district is required to provide a certain level of transportation service to its resident students. The board has complete discretion to provide additional transportation service to its resident and nonresident students. School district transportation vehicles may, at the discretion of the board, make special stops on the bus route as a courtesy to the passengers. Changes in the bus route for discretionary stops must be reviewed by the board.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to recommend to the board whether a school vehicle will make a discretionary stop. In making this recommendation, the superintendent shall consider the safety of the students, the size of the school buses, the length of the route, the cost to the school district, and other factors deemed relevant by the board or superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 285.10 (2005).
281 I.A.C. 43.10.

Cross Reference: 711 Transportation

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SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

The school district may use school vehicles for transportation to and from summer extracurricular activities. The superintendent shall make a recommendation to the board annually regarding their use.

Transportation to and from the student's attendance center for summer school instructional programs shall be only for special education students and within the discretion of the board. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation regarding transportation of students in summer school instructional programs at the expense of the school district. In making the recommendation to the board, the superintendent shall consider the financial condition of the school district, the number of students involved in summer school programs, and other factors deemed relevant by the board or the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 285.10 (2005).
281 I.A.C. 43.10.

Cross Reference: 603.2 Summer School Instruction
711 Transportation

Approved _____

Reviewed May 2012

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TRANSPORTATION OF NONRESIDENT AND NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

The board has sole discretion to determine the method to be utilized for transporting nonresident and nonpublic students. Nonresident students paying tuition may be, and resident students attending a nonpublic school accredited by the State Department of Education, will be transported on an established public school vehicle route as long as such transportation does not interfere with resident public students' transportation. Nonresident and nonpublic school students shall obtain the permission of the superintendent prior to being transported by the school district.

Parents of resident students who provide transportation for their children attending a nonpublic school accredited by the Iowa Department of Education will be reimbursed at the established state rate. This reimbursement shall be paid only if the school district receives the funds from the state. If less than the amount of funds necessary to fully reimburse parents of the nonpublic students is received by the school district, the funds shall be prorated.

The charge to the nonresident students shall be determined based on the students' pro rata share of the actual costs for transportation. The parents of these students shall be billed for the student's share of the actual costs of transportation. The billing shall be according to the schedule developed by the superintendent. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to determine the amount to be charged and report it to the board secretary for billing.

Continued transportation of nonresident and nonpublic school students on a public school vehicle route will be subject to resident public school students' transportation needs. The superintendent shall make a recommendation annually to the board regarding the method to be used. In making a recommendation to the board, the superintendent shall consider the number of students to be transported, the capacity of the school vehicles, the financial condition of the school district and other factors deemed relevant by the board or the superintendent.

Nonresident and nonpublic school students shall be subject to the same conduct regulations as resident public students as prescribed by board policy, and to other policies, rules, or regulations developed by the school district regarding transportation of students by the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 285.1-.2, .10, .16 (2005).

Cross Reference: 711 Transportation

Approved _____

Reviewed May 2012

Revised

TRANSPORTATION OF NONSCHOOL GROUPS

School district vehicles may be available to local nonprofit entities which promote cultural, educational, civic, community, or recreational activities for transporting to and from nonschool-sponsored activities within the state as long as the transportation does not interfere with or disrupt the education program of the school district and does not interfere with or delay the transportation of students. The local nonprofit entity must pay the cost of a board approved bus driver and a per mile rate for using the school district vehicle as determined by the superintendent. Prior to making the school district transportation vehicle available to the local nonprofit entity, the "school bus" signs shall be covered and the flashing warning lamps and the stop arm made inoperable.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for use of school district transportation vehicles to transport students and others to school-sponsored events within the state and for application for, use of, and payment for using the school district transportation vehicles by local nonprofit entities for a nonschool-sponsored activity.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 285.1(21), .10(9), (10) (2005).
281 I.A.C. 43.10.

Cross Reference: 711 Transportation
900 Principles and Objectives for Community Relations

Approved _____

Reviewed May 2012

Revised

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY INSTRUCTION

The school district shall conduct school bus safe riding practices instruction and emergency safety drills twice a year for students who utilize school district transportation.

Each school bus vehicle shall have, in addition to the regular emergency safety drill, a plan for helping those students who require special assistance to safety during an emergency. This shall include, but not be limited to, students with disabilities.

School district vehicle drivers are required to attend each safety drill.

Employees shall be responsible for instructing the proper techniques to be followed during an emergency, as well as safe riding practices. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 321 (2005).
281 I.A.C. 43.40.

Cross Reference: 503 Student Discipline
507 Student Health and Well-Being
804.2 Warning Systems and Emergency Plans

Approved _____

Reviewed May 2012

Revised

TRANSPORTATION IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

School district buses will not operate when weather conditions due to fog, rain, snow or other natural elements make it unsafe to do so. Because weather conditions may vary around the school district and may change quickly, the best judgment possible will be used with the information available.

The final judgment as to when conditions are unsafe to operate will be made by the superintendent. The superintendent will be assisted by the transportation director and the actual "on location" decisions and reports of the drivers.

Several drivers each year will be specially designated to report weather and road conditions by bus radio when requested to do so. Other employees and students will be notified by commercial radio when school is cancelled or temporarily delayed. When school is cancelled because of weather anywhere in the school district, all schools will be closed.

When weather conditions deteriorate during the day after school has begun, cancellation notices will be announced by commercial radio. Students will be returned to their regular drop-off sites unless weather conditions prevent it. In that case, students will be kept at or returned to school until they are picked up by the parents.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 601.2 School Day

Approved

Reviewed May 2012

Revised