Operational Services

Transportation

The District shall provide free transportation for any student in the District who resides: (1) at a distance of one and one-half miles or more from his or her assigned or (2) within one and one-half miles from his or her assigned school where walking to school or to a pick-up point or bus stop would constitute a serious hazard due to vehicular traffic or rail crossing, and adequate public transportation is not available. The District may provide transportation for any student residing within one and one-half miles from his or her assigned school. A student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) may file a petition with the Board of Education requesting transportation due to the existence of a serious safety hazard. Free transportation service and vehicle adaptation is provided for a special education student if included in the student’s individualized educational program. The District may provide transportation to and from school-sponsored activities. Non-public school students shall be transported in accordance with State law. Homeless students shall be transported in accordance with Section 45/1-15 of the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children Act. Foster care students shall be transported in accordance with Section 6312(c)(5)(B) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The default location for student pick-up and drop-off is a location convenient to the student’s residence. However, if a student regularly attends a day care facility before and after school located outside of his or her residence but within the boundary area of the school attended, that location may be considered for purposes of determining the one and one-half miles from the school attended. Pick-up and drop-off locations for students in such day care facilities must be along the District’s regular routes, unless the Transportation Director establishes new routes. The District will not discriminate among types of locations where day care is provided, which may include the premises of licensed providers, relatives’ homes, or neighbors’ homes.

Bus schedules and routes shall be determined by the Transportation Director and shall be altered only with the Transportation Director’s approval and direction. In setting the routes, the pick-up and discharge points should be as safe for students as possible.

No school employee may transport students in school or private vehicles unless authorized by the administration.

Every vehicle regularly used for the transportation of students must pass safety inspections in accordance with State law and Illinois Department of Transportation regulations. The strobe light on a school bus may be illuminated only when the bus is actually being used as a school bus and (1) is stopping or stopped for loading or discharging students on a highway outside an urban area, or (2) is bearing one or more students. The Superintendent shall implement procedures in accordance with State law for accepting comment calls about school bus driving.

All contracts for charter bus services must contain the clause prescribed by State law regarding criminal background checks for bus drivers.
Pre-Trip and Post-Trip Vehicle Inspection
The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a pre-trip and post-trip inspection procedure to ensure that the school bus driver: (1) tests the two-way radio and ensures that it is functioning properly before the bus is operated, and (2) walks to the rear of the bus before leaving the bus at the end of each route, work shift, or work day, to check the bus for children or other passengers in the bus.


CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Ethics and Conduct), 5:280 (Educational Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)


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