

## STUDENT TRANSPORTATION (M)

### 8600 TRANSPORTATION (M)

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The Board of Education directs the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to supervise development of bus routes to provide safe, economical, and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

1. Pupils who live remote from the schoolhouse as defined by New Jersey law;
2. Educationally disabled pupils in accordance with their IEP;
3. Pupils participating in Board-approved extracurricular activities or field trips;
4. Pupils whose route to the school is deemed hazardous by the Board; and
5. Other pupils as required by law.

The criteria to be used in designing routes and assigning pupils to them shall include:

1. The distance to be traveled to and from school;
2. The age and state of health of the child;
3. The requirements of the instructional program; and
4. The hazards involved on the route to be traveled.

Transportation to and from school shall be provided as required by law to eligible nonpublic school pupils and to pupils attending charter schools. All pupils riding on buses shall be required to observe the bus conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation.

The Board may transport both public and nonpublic pupils who live within statutory limits (courtesy busing). The Board or a cooperative transportation services agency may charge for this service. The charge shall be equitable and shall include, but not be limited to, the cost of fuel, driver salaries, and insurance.



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Buses, whether contracted or district-owned, shall be kept in optimum condition and shall conform to all State safety regulations. Bus routes must be acted upon by the Board and submitted to the County office.

### Courtesy Transportation Along Hazardous Routes

The Black Horse Pike Regional Board of Education is concerned with the safety of pupils who walk to and from school along roadways determined to be hazardous routes. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall work in conjunction with municipal officials to determine the criteria necessary for the classification of a hazardous route and shall maintain a list of all hazardous routes in the district. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall develop rules and regulations to supply courtesy transportation for pupils who must walk to and from school along routes designated by the Black Horse Pike Regional School District to be hazardous routes. The criteria used to determine hazardous routes may include but shall not be limited to the following:

1. Population density;
2. Traffic volume;
3. Average vehicle velocity;
4. Existence or absence of sufficient sidewalk space;
5. Roads and highways that are winding or have blind curves;
6. Roads or highways with steep inclines and declines;
7. Drop-offs that are close proximity to a sidewalk;
8. Bridges or overpasses that must be crossed to reach the school;
9. Train tracks or trestles that must be crossed to reach the school; and/or
10. Busy roads and highways that must be crossed to reach the school.

Pupils who would otherwise be required to walk to and from school along routes designated as hazardous shall be included in the calculation of the district's regular vehicle capacity utilization.

### Special Use of School Buses



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In general, use of contracted transportation shall be restricted for:

1. Transportation of district pupils to and from school for daily classes and examinations;
2. Transportation of district pupils to and from approved school activities and field trips; and
3. Transportation of classified pupils to and from State approved educational institutions as required by the pupils' Individual Education Plan.

All trips other than those on regular to and from school routes shall be chaperoned by a member of the school staff. At least one staff member must ride on each bus taking pupils to and from school activities and field trips.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s), Board members, and school related organization members may accompany pupils and staff on school vehicles to and from field trips and other activities at the discretion of the Principal and when seats are available. School staff members shall have authority over all persons during such trips.

N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 27:15-16

N.J.S.A. 39:3B-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1 et seq.; 6A:27-2.1 et seq.; 6A:27-3.1

[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 106, 109, 125, 140, 149, 156 and 218]

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The Board of Education shall transport eligible students to and from school and school related activities in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq., N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1 et seq., and Board policy. Transportation shall be provided only to eligible public and nonpublic school students, authorized school staff members, and adults serving as approved chaperones.

Nonpublic school transportation or aid in lieu of transportation shall be provided for resident students in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-2.1 et seq.



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Charter or renaissance school transportation or aid in lieu of transportation shall be provided for resident students in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-3.1 et seq.

The Board may provide transportation to and from school for public school students less than remote.

The Board will transport students certified by a physician as temporarily disabled regardless of the distance between their home and school.

Students with special needs shall be provided transportation in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq., and with their Individualized Education Program (IEP) pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-5..

The Board will approve all bus routes each school year. Bus routes for all non-remote students who must walk to and from school along hazardous routes will be designated and approved by the Board. The Board may consider, but shall not be limited to, the criteria outlined in N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.5 in determining "Hazardous Routes."

The Board will not be responsible for the transportation of nonresident students to or from school, except that transportation to and from school will be provided for homeless students; students residing in group homes; students residing in resource family homes; and students residing in shared custody homes pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-6.2, 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5.

Transportation services will be provided in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:27-2.2(c)1, and this Policy to a nonpublic school located outside the State not more than twenty miles from the student's home.

When the schools of this district are closed for inclement weather or other conditions, no transportation will be provided for students enrolled in any public, nonpublic, charter school, and/or renaissance school.

The Board shall utilize cooperative/coordinated transportation services in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:39-11.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:27-10.1 et seq. The Board shall utilize one of the agencies prior to determining to pay aid in lieu of transportation if in the prior year payments in lieu of transportation were provided. The Board will provide to the cooperative/coordinated transportation services any unique limitations or restrictions of the required transportation.



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Vehicles used to transport students to and from school or school related activities shall meet standards, registration, and inspection requirements of the New Jersey Departments of Education (NJDOE), and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC), and any applicable Federal regulations. The operation and fiscal management of the district's transportation system shall be conducted in strict accordance with rules of the New Jersey State Board of Education and the NJDOE.

In addition to the provisions of any State law, rule, or regulation containing more stringent requirements, provided that those requirements are compatible with Federal law, and notwithstanding the provisions of any State law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, school bus operations in the State shall comply with the requirements outlined in N.J.S.A. 39:3B-27.

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.; 18A:39-1 et seq.; 18A:39-11.1 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 27:15-16

N.J.S.A. 39:3B-1 et seq.; 39:3B-2.1; 39:3B-10; 39:3B-27

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1 et seq.; 6A:27-2.1 et seq.; 6A:27-3.1 et seq.;

6A:27-4.1 et seq.; 6A:27-5.1; 6A:27-6.2 through 6.5;

6A:27-7.1 et seq.; 6A:27-9.1 et seq.; 6A:27-10.1 et seq.;

6A:27-11.1 et seq.; 6A:27-12.1 et seq.

Adopted: 9 April 2009

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 22 October 2020

