

TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

It is the policy of the Board of Education to provide transportation for those students, of any age, whose distance from their school makes this service necessary within the limitations established by State law and the requirements of the State Board of Education. It shall be considered a privilege to be enjoyed by a student only as long as he/she accepts responsibility for his/her own conduct, carefully follows all rules and regulations and promptly responds to the directions of the bus driver.

In order to provide the most efficient transportation services, elementary school bus riders will find it necessary to walk some distance, up to approximately one (1) mile, to the designated bus stop or to school. Secondary school bus riders will be expected to walk up to approximately one (1) mile to board a bus and up to approximately one and one-half (1.5) miles to school. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to assure student safety arriving and waiting at the bus stop and returning home from the bus stop after drop-off, with the exception: **Exception:** Parent(s) or guardian(s), of approved School of Choice students, shall be responsible for providing their own student's transportation if the parent has the student attend a school other than that of their assigned attendance area.

Bus Routes:

Careful consideration shall be given to such conditions as safety and hazards, number and ages of students, kind and condition of roads, safe and convenient bus stops, economy of operations, and estimated time necessary to cover the routes. Routes are to be planned to keep individual riding distance and time to a practical minimum.

All school buses and student transportation vehicles, whether purchased, leased or contracted for shall comply with specifications defined in State law. Each operator of a school vehicle used by the District shall be licensed for the purpose for which the vehicle is being used and shall operate the vehicles in accordance with Federal and State laws. The license, a medical examiner's certificate, and record of continuing education must be in the driver's possession when driving.

The Board reserves the right to terminate transportation based on financial, legal, or other considerations. It is a privilege for students to ride a District vehicle and this privilege may be revoked if the student's conduct is in violation of the Superintendent's administrative guidelines or the Student Code of Conduct pertaining to student transportation.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to install and operate video cameras on District buses to enhance student safety and well-being. He/She shall establish appropriate administrative guidelines for the proper use of cameras.

The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines to ensure proper implementation of this policy.

In accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Education, the District shall transport resident students attending non-public schools to schools located near the district. Transportation of non-public school students shall be in accordance with existing statutes and contingent on starting times which do not conflict with transporting resident students to Fitzgerald Schools.

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