

DE SOTO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

751

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

It is the goal of the De Soto Area School District to provide safe, timely, and economical transportation for all eligible students residing within District boundaries, under provisions of state laws and regulations governing student transportation.

Responsibilities

The District Administrator is responsible for the daily operation, enforcement, and administration of the student transportation system. He/she shall act as a liaison between the administrative staff, transportation contractor, and District citizens in resolving problems that might arise in the implementation of these transportation policies.

Building principals are responsible for the safety and discipline of the students from the time they board the bus for school until they exit the bus for home. They are also responsible for such other areas as outlined within this policy.

The transportation contractor is responsible for providing student transportation in accordance with the Board's student transportation policies and procedures. ***{NOTE: I included additional information regarding transportation contractor responsibilities in policy 751.4.}***

Parents/guardians are responsible for students using school busses until the students actually board the bus for school and after they get off the bus on a return trip.

Eligibility

- Students living two or more miles from the school they are required to attend shall be transported. ***{NOTE: I added this item to reflect general transportation requirements under section 121.54(2)(a) of the statutes.}***

- Students living less than two miles from the school they are required to attend shall be transported if they are subjected to an area of "unusual hazard" while walking to school. The area of "unusual hazard" must be officially designated by the Board of Education, the county sheriff, and the Wisconsin department of public instruction, in accordance with state law.
- Private school students who reside in the District a distance of two miles or more from the private school they attend, within whose attendance area they reside if the private school is within the District or not more than five miles beyond District boundaries shall be transported. **{NOTE: I revised the previous statement to correspond more closely to current provisions of section 121.54(2)(b)1 of the statutes.}**
- Transportation shall be provided to all resident students who are determined to be disabled, if required by the student's individualized education plan (IEP). **{NOTE: I revised the previous statement since the need for transportation of students with disabilities is determined on an individual basis (section 121.54(3) of the statutes).}** Whenever possible, such students will be transported on regular school busses, provided they are able to handle it and do not require special care while on the bus. For students with disabilities who are determined to be unable to ride regular busses, special transportation arrangements will be made. **{NOTE: I revised the previous statement, again, to reflect the individual nature of such decisions. I also deleted the reference to the Board since decisions regarding specific transportation arrangements would be made administratively. This policy provides general direction from the Board. Also, I deleted information regarding "handicapped students under physician's care". Medical and health needs are just one factor considered in the IEP team's determination of whether transportation is a related service for a particular child. Refer to DPI's bulletin 03.06, attached.}**
- Students who are not eligible for transportation will be allowed to ride busses under certain circumstances. Students wishing to ride a bus must have a note from their parent(s)/guardian explaining the request for transportation. The request will be denied if there is not room on the bus.

Policy Review

The school administration, Board of Education building and grounds/transportation committee, and transportation contractor shall review carefully all transportation-related policies and procedures prior to the start of each school year. (Refer to cross reference section below.) **{NOTE: You may wish to add information regarding this duty of the building and grounds/transportation committee to policy 183.}**

LEGAL REF.: Sections 115.787 Wisconsin Statutes
118.51(14)
118.52(11)
121.51-121.58
895.035
TRANS 300, Wisconsin Administrative Code
PI 7

CROSS REF.: 423, Public School Open Enrollment
443.2, Student Conduct on School Buses
751.1, Bus Routing and Scheduling
751.1-Rule, Bus Routing and Scheduling
Guidelines
751.2, School Bus Safety
751.21, Use of Video Monitoring Systems on
School Buses
751.22, Bus Drivers
751.3, Late Bus
751.4, Transportation Contractors
751.4-Rule, Transportation Contractor
Guidelines
752, Use of School-Owned Vehicles

APPROVED: October 8, 2001

REVISED: September 8, 2003
Add new revision date

NOTE: This policy was found in your district's current policy manual (620 p. 1-2 - revised 9/8/03). I revised it for stylistic reasons and as outlined above. (WASB - 2/08)