

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Transportation

General

The Board of Education shall provide for the public schools an appropriate transportation system, within guidelines set forth in this policy, which will enable all qualified children of school age to be transported to schools as required. School bus transportation is for students only. The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for the school transportation system and shall develop and administer it to:

- A. Provide maximum safety of students.
- B. Supplement and reinforce desirable student behavior patterns.
- C. Assist handicapped students appropriately.
- D. Enrich the instructional program through carefully planned field trips recommended by the staff.

The transportation system shall be planned and operated in compliance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and all regulations of the State Department of Education and the State Department of Motor Vehicles regarding the operation of school buses and motor vehicles.

Transportation by private carrier or through district owned buses shall be provided at the discretion of the Board of Education. Parents may be reimbursed for transportation of eligible students whenever such practice is more economical or convenient.

Federal Compliance

Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the school of origin as required by the No Child Left Behind Act. These services shall be provided throughout the regularly scheduled school year and day as determined by the Board.

Transportation will be provided for an eligible student who attends a district school out of the student's attendance area because his/her home school has been identified as in need of improvement, or the student is a victim of a violent criminal offense occurring in or on the grounds of the school the student attends or the student attends a school identified as persistently dangerous.

Transportation may be provided to eligible students who transfer from a district school to an out-of-district school under a cooperative agreement because their home school has been identified as in need of improvement under the No Child Left Behind Act.

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Transportation (continued)

Duties of the Superintendent

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools or designee to manage and supervise the school transportation service and, in connection therewith, to do the following:

- A. Determine eligibility for school transportation in accordance with these guidelines and Section 10-186 of the General Statutes and in compliance with applicable portions of the No Child Left Behind Act pertaining to homeless students and school choice.
- B. Establish school transportation routes and designate locations for pick-up points (bus stops). The Superintendent shall direct the establishment of bus routes to provide the safest, shortest routes as economically as possible. Routes shall equalize, as nearly as possible, the length of routes and bus loads as close to bus capacity as possible.
- C. Develop, circulate and enforce codes of behavior for those children who are transported to and from school via school transportation.
- D. Develop procedures for responding to requests pertaining to matters of school transportation or other school accommodations.
- F. Perform all other duties and responsibilities related to the furnishing of school accommodations by school transportation or otherwise in a manner consistent with Section 10-186 of the Connecticut General Statutes or these guidelines.

(cf. 3541.3 Routes and Services)

(cf. 3541.35 Safety Complaints Records and Reports)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-76d Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services. State agency placements; apportionment of costs. Relationship of insurance to special education costs.

10-97 Transportation to vocational schools.

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board.

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Transportation

Legal Reference (continued)

Connecticut General Statutes

10-187 Appeal from finding of hearing board.

10-220 Duties of boards of education.

10-221 Development of policy for reporting complaints re school transportation safety. Reporting of accidents at school bus stops.

10-220c Transportation of children over private roads. Immunity from liability.

10-273a et seq. Reimbursement for transportation to and from elementary and secondary schools.

10-280a Transportation for students in non-profit private schools outside school district.

10-281 Transportation for students in non-profit private schools within school district.

Chapter 248 Vehicle Highway Use

20 U.S.C. NCLB Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, Title I, Section 1116

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, 42 U.S.C., Sections 11431-11435

Policy adopted: March 9, 2017

STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Stonington, Connecticut