

## TRANSPORTATION

- I. Pursuant to Section 121.54, Wisconsin Statutes, the Board of Education shall provide free bus transportation for school children residing outside the incorporated limits of the municipality in which the school they attend is located, providing they live 2 or more miles from their attendance center. Transportation shall be provided for students attending private schools in accordance with SS.121.54(2)(v).
- II. The contractor is responsible for complying with safety standards and practice while boarding and unloading children. Neither the School District nor the contractor are responsible for children prior to the time they board the school bus or after they are properly off loaded from the bus at the end of the school day.
- III. Children who are entitled to regular bus transportation may be required to proceed to a bus stop near, but not necessarily adjacent, to home driveway locations. Where the safety of the bus and/or all other child riders may be jeopardized, children may be required to use a bus stop location no more than one-half mile from the intersection of the private road or driveway with the public road.
- IV. As per Wisconsin statute, all mileage measurements shall be from the intersection of the centerline of the private road or driveway with the public road servicing the residence. When measuring the distance from a residence to a school, the following method of computation will be used.
- V. Measurements between residence and school shall be along the usually traveled route. A measurement shall consist of a round trip from the residence (intersection of the mid-line of the driveway or private road or service walk, the private road servicing the residents) to the school via the usually traveled bus route, entrance to the school service road at the flagpole entrance and return to the residence starting point.
- VI. The resulting mileage shall be divided by 2 to establish the distance between residence and school. (Note: For the Thomas Jefferson Middle School, there is no "flagpole entrance". The north parking lot with its natural one-way traffic flow for bus loading will be used in lieu of the flagpole.)
- VII. Special transportation will be provided at no cost for students with disabilities, regardless of where they live within the District boundaries, if the transportation is determined to be a related service. Related services are determined by the team preparing the student's individual educational program (IEP)

Specialized transportation is to be considered as a related service as defined in state and federal laws and regulations. The need for special transportation will be determined on an annual basis at the student's IEP meeting and will be authorized by the local educational agency (LEA [school district]) representative.

Specialized transportation may be provided to students experiencing a temporary medical condition as prescribed by the student's physician.

## **VIII. Bus Routes**

- A. Bus routes for children attending schools located within the School District shall be established in such a manner as to ensure that no child need spend more than 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  hours per day on a school bus. Time shall be measured from boarding to unloading. Return routes shall be established using the principal of "first on, first off".
- B. Bus routes for children attending school outside the District but within 5 miles of the District borders, should be established in such a manner as to ensure that no child need spend more than 2 hours and 15 minutes per day on the school bus. Time shall be measured from boarding to discharge. Return routes should be established using "First on, first off".

IX. Eligibility for regular bus transportation will be determined from the residence of the child. Route and designated bus stops will be determined for the place of residence of the eligible children.

X. For those instances where parents wish their children to use a designated bus stop other than the one designated for the legal residence, the following criteria must be met:

- A. Eligibility for regular transportation must be based on the legal residence of the child.
- B. Written request for a change in the designated bus stop must be made by the parent or guardian. Said request shall be approved by the District Office administrator(s) if it meets the tests listed below. A copy shall be kept on file in the District office.
- C. Each such change shall meet the following tests before approval:
  - 1. There shall be no change in the established bus route(s).
  - 2. There must be room on the bus if the change affects a route other than the route, which the child is assigned by the child's legal residence.

3. There shall be no additional cost to the School District.
  4. Other children shall not be inconvenienced by the change.
- XI. The School District does not assume transportation obligations for nonresident students attending school in the District.
- XII. Areas of Unusual Hazard
- A. As per Sec. 121.54(9) Wis.Stats., the Board shall prepare a map and accompanying narrative designating areas of unusual hazards. In determining whether a student's travel would be subject to an unusual hazard, and therefore qualify for District-provided transportation, the Board shall consider the following factors:
  - B. Width of the shoulder of the road – Children should not be expected to walk in traffic lanes of a highway. The speed and number of vehicles traveling any of the roadways would indicate that traffic lanes are unsafe for pedestrians. Shoulder width on each side of the roadway should be at least 3 feet and should be maintained free of snow and other obstructions.
  - C. Traffic Count – There are usually more vehicles using main highways than using secondary roads. However, a traffic count can be misleading because of variations at different times of the day. Motorists hurrying to and from work during rush hours, which coincide with school hours, present a hazard to children.
  - D. Lack of crossing guards – Some municipalities provide school crossing guards at busy intersections; other communities provide no extra protection for student pedestrians.
  - E. Lack of law enforcement – Posted speed limits are often ignored unless adequate enforcement is provided.
  - F. Ages of children – While certain conditions present a degree of hazard to people of all ages, older children can be expected to accept more responsibility and exercise better judgment than younger children.
  - G. Railroad crossing – Moving trains, as well as trains stopped at crossings, present hazards to young people on their way to school.
  - H. Lack of sidewalks – Sidewalk installations are often delayed in rapidly developing suburban areas. This forces children to walk in the streets on their way to and from school.

- I. Nature of traffic – A concentration of heavy truck traffic increases the hazards of any road. Areas near large manufacturing plants or office buildings experience heavy traffic when shifts change.
  - J. Inadequate pedestrian safeguards near school areas – Many children are transported to and from school by parents. Shortly before the start and the close of the school day, large numbers of vehicles converge on the school presenting extra hazards to children who must walk.
  - K. Temporary hazards – Construction projects, street repairs, excavations, and similar projects present additional problems and temptations to children walking to and from school.
  - L. Secluded areas – A hazard may be present where small children must walk through parks and other secluded areas.
- XIII. Annually, prior to the development of school bus routes, the Director of Business Services shall determine hazardous transportation needs based on the criteria listed in this policy. Changes to the current hazardous transportation plan and map will be brought to the Board for appropriate action prior to July 15th.

Legal reference:  
Sections 120.13(27m), 121.52, 121.53, 121.54 et seq. Wis. Stats.

Adopted: 6/18/01  
Revised: 1/14/08; 3/16/15

The Port Washington-Saukville School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Special Services, Port Washington-Saukville School District, 100 W. Monroe Street, Port Washington, WI 53074 - Duane.Woelfel@pwssd.k12.wi.us