

POLICY

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

File Code: 3541.1

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND SERVICES

The board of education directs the business administrator to supervise development of bus routes to provide safe, economical and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

- A. Pupils who live remote from the schoolhouse as defined by New Jersey law;
- B. Educationally disabled pupils in accordance with their IEP;
- C. Pupils participating in board-approved extracurricular activities or field trips;
- D. Pupils whose route to the school is deemed hazardous by the board;
- E. Other pupils as required by law.

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

- A. The distance to be traveled to and from school;
- B. The age and state of health of the child;
- C. The requirements of the instructional program;
- D. 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. All pupils riding on district buses shall be required to observe the district's bus conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation. Students 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.

On a space-available basis, the board may transport both public and nonpublic students 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.

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.

Waiver of Eligible Transportation Services

Each school year a parent/guardian of a pupil who is eligible for transportation services under the law may sign a written statement waiving the pupil's right to those services. This written statement shall be in the form that is determined by the Department of Education. (Parental Transportation Services Waiver Form)

Reinstatement of Transportation Services

If there is a case of a family or economic hardship during the school year in which the parent/guardian has waived the pupil's transportation service rights, the district will make provisions to provide transportation to the pupil during this hardship. This written request shall be in the form that is determined by the Department of Education. (Reinstatement of Transportation Services Request Form)

Guidelines for Waivers and Reinstatement of Transportation Requests

The following guidelines shall apply:

- A. All transportation waivers and reinstatements shall be approved by the board;
- B. The criteria for determining family or economic hardship shall include:
 1. Statewide eligibility standards established for free and reduced price meals under the State school lunch program;
 2. Submission of proof of family or economic hardship subject to a case-by-case determination as approved by the superintendent and the board;
- C. Requests shall be limited to two waiver requests and/or two reinstatement requests within one school year.
- D. The Reinstatement of Transportation Services Request Form shall be submitted not less than 10 school days in advance of the estimated start date of transportation.

Date adopted: 2/8/99
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