

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WAUKESHA
Waukesha, WI**

#3541

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

The Board desires that a safe, efficient and economical program of transportation be provided for all district pupils who are eligible for transportation services to and from the schools to which they are assigned by the School District of Waukesha. To provide such a program, the Board shall contract for bus services.

The transportation program shall be supervised by the superintendent of schools, or designee. The designee, working with the bus contractor(s), is to establish, annually, safe and efficient bus routes which include multiple runs for buses when possible. Maximum riding time for a pupil will be reasonable compared with average riding time based on state surveys. Pupils living off main-traveled roads (including subdivisions and cul-de-sacs) may be required to walk to designated pick-up points. The designated pick-up/discharge points for students who reside in apartment complexes shall be on the street which is adjacent to the entrance of the apartment complex. School busses and vans shall only travel on dedicated public streets and right-of-ways unless, determined by administration, student safety would be compromised. Other exceptions to this policy may be made only when the student has a medically diagnosed disability which inhibits his/her ability to walk and/or uses a wheelchair, walker, or a related aid for walking and a specialized school bus (lift van) has to be utilized. Bus drivers are authorized to pick-up and discharge bus riders only at the scheduled stops which have been designated by the district and the carrier.

Resident pupils shall be eligible to be transported to public elementary, middle or high schools if they reside two or more miles from the school to which the district has assigned them. Resident pupils living two or more miles from the private schools they attend, are also eligible for transportation, provided that the private school attended has an established attendance area. This is prescribed by Wisconsin Statutes (see 121.51(1)) if the private school is located within the School District of Waukesha or within five (5) miles of this school district's boundaries. Other pupils are eligible for transportation only if such service is required by state law or has been approved by action of the School Board Finance & Facilities (F&F) Committee. Students who are granted permission to attend a school other than the school in the attendance area in which they reside must provide their own transportation to and from school.

If the cost of transporting an eligible pupil to a non-public school is more than 1.5 times the school district's average cost per pupil for bus transportation in the previous year, the Board or its designee may offer the parent/guardian of the pupil a parent contract in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes.

Pupils who ride a school bus or school van must comply with the state and the district's Bus Rider Rules. Copies of these rules are mailed prior to the beginning of each school year to each parent and student together with the bus schedule and designated pick up/discharge point.

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When the operation of a school bus is not economical or practical, school-owned, leased or private vehicles may be used for student transportation. All operators and vehicles used for transporting students shall be in compliance with state student alternative transportation requirements. All vehicles transporting students shall be driven by someone who holds a valid regular Wisconsin driver's license and is at least 21 years of age.

All matters concerning student transportation shall be referred to the designee. Transportation issues shall be resolved administratively, if possible. The Board authorizes the provision of free transportation to and from school origin to homeless students in accordance with state and federal law. Matters unresolved at the administrative level shall be referred to the F&F Committee for final resolution.

The Board authorizes the F&F Committee to enter into an agreement with and monitor the district's student transportation carrier(s) to bus non-eligible students to schools for a fee collected by the carrier. The administration is authorized to direct the transportation contractor to make stop and route changes for the pay-to-ride program if there is no additional charge to the district. Families eligible for the pay-to-ride program shall be charged on a sliding scale for multiple students at a rate to be determined by the F&F Committee.

Reference: Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 121, Subchapter IV
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act 42 USC 11431 et. seq.

Cross Reference: Policy #3240 - Tuition Fees
Policy #5117 - School Attendance
Policy #5131G - Student Rights and Responsibilities

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