

Operational Services

Transportation

The District shall provide free transportation for any student in the District who resides: (1) at a distance of one and one-half miles or more from his or her assigned school, unless the School Board has certified to the Illinois State Board of Education that adequate public transportation is available, or (2) within one and one-half miles from his or her assigned school where walking to school or to a pick-up point or bus stop would constitute a serious hazard due to vehicular traffic or rail crossing, and adequate public transportation is not available. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may file a petition with the Board requesting transportation due to the existence of a serious safety hazard. Free transportation service and vehicle adaptation is provided for a special education student if included in the student's individualized educational program. Non-public school students shall be transported in accordance with State law. Homeless students shall be transported in accordance with the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

Bus schedules and routes shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee and shall be altered only with the Superintendent or designee's approval and direction. In fixing the routes, the pick-up and discharge points should be as safe and convenient for students as possible.

No school employee may transport students in school or private vehicles unless authorized by the administration.

Every vehicle regularly used for the transportation of students must pass safety inspections in accordance with State law and Illinois Department of Transportation regulations. The strobe light on a school bus may be illuminated any time a bus is bearing one or more students. The Superintendent shall implement procedures in accordance with State law for accepting erratic driving reports.

All contracts for charter bus services must contain the clause prescribed by State law regarding criminal background checks for bus drivers.

Passenger Restraint Systems

Each passenger on a Valley View Public Schools 365U bus or activity bus that is equipped with a passenger restraint system shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened passenger restraint system.

Passenger restraint systems shall be used at all times the school bus or activity bus is in operation. All passengers shall be instructed in an age-appropriate manner in the use of the passenger restraint system.

During the DOT inspection and before each route, the bus driver is to ensure that the restraint systems are free of any defects, returned to their full, retracted position and the mechanisms are ready for passenger use.

Post-Trip Vehicle Inspection

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a post-trip inspection procedure to ensure that the school bus driver is the last person leaving the bus and that no passenger is left behind or remains on the vehicle at the end of a route, work shift, or workday.

LEGAL REF.: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq.
105 ILCS 5/10-22.22 and 5/29-1 et seq.
105 ILCS 45/1-15.
625 ILCS 5/1-182, 5/11-1414.1, 5/12-815, 5/12-816, 5/12-821, and 5/13-109.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.510 and 226.935.

CROSS REF.: 5:280 (Educational Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

ADMIN. PROC.: 4:110-AP2 (Post-Trip Inspection and Erratic Driving Reports), 6:140-AP (Education of Homeless Children)

ADOPTED: September 8, 1997

AMENDED: July 13, 1998

AMENDED: September 23, 2002

AMENDED: May 12, 2003

AMENDED: May 10, 2004

AMENDED: June 10, 2008