

8600 TRANSPORTATION

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to transport local pupils according to the following guidelines:

1. No pupil attending school within the boundaries of Point Pleasant Borough shall ride a bus for a scheduled time greater than forty-five minutes. All attempts shall be made to balance the needs for efficiency while minimizing the length of time pupils will ride the bus. The time requirement shall not apply to pupils being transported outside the district, such as special education, vocational, non-public pupils, or any other Board-approved program.
2. No pupil shall be scheduled for arrival at his/her assigned school earlier than fifteen minutes prior to the morning late bell.
3. No pupil shall be scheduled to depart his/her assigned school more than twenty minutes after the afternoon late bell.
4. Pupils shall be transported from the assigned bus stop to the assigned school or to the district's child care program. On the return trip, pupils shall be transported from the assigned school to the assigned bus stop or the district's child care program. The single exception to this rule is that parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may select any bus stop on the pupil's assigned bus route, but such selection must be for the full school year, and the morning and afternoon stop must be the same.
5. Eligible riders shall not be transported to relatives, friends, babysitters, parent work sites or other institutions. Transportation is provided only for eligible riders to and from assigned stops and their assigned school or the district's day care center.
6. No pupil shall be dismissed before the final instructional bell for the purpose of expediting busing.
7. Routes and bus stops may be reevaluated annually and may be changed at any time during the school year to more efficiently serve conditions that may prevail at the time; however, parent(s) or legal guardian(s) shall be informed of any pending change in route which affects their child, in any way, before change is made.



The Board of Education directs the Supervisor of Transportation or Superintendent's designee to develop bus routes to provide safe, efficient, and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

1. Pupils who live remote from the school house* as defined by New Jersey State Law.

*a. Remote from the school house is currently defined as 2.5 miles for high school pupils (9-12) and beyond two miles for elementary pupils (Kindergarten-8).

b. For the purpose of determining remoteness, measurement shall be made by the shortest route along public roadways or walkways from the entrance of the pupil's residence nearest such public roadway or walkway to the nearest public entrance of the assigned school.

2. Local Policy

The Board shall, as a matter of local policy, transport pupils according to the following standards:

Kindergarten - all Kindergarten pupils attending their assigned session are eligible for transportation.

Grades 1-5 - more than 3/4 mile remote from the assigned school.

Grades 6-8 - more than 9/10 mile remote from the assigned school.

In the case where the transportation boundary runs through any one street, the transportation boundary shall be moved to the nearest intersection of that particular street.

3. Hazardous Routes

In addition to the local transportation policy, the Board of Education has evaluated, with the assistance of the Borough Police Department, its busing routes and has determined that no child from grades Kindergarten-8 shall have to walk across the canal bridges located on Route 88 and Bridge Avenue. These routes are considered hazardous, and no child in Grades Kindergarten-8 shall be required to walk over these bridges. Transportation shall be provided to these pupils regardless of their distance from home to school.



4. Medically and educationally handicapped pupils in accordance with their prescribed needs. Pupils who are eligible for medical transportation, will have their transportation terminated upon their return to physical education classes.
5. Pupils participating in Board approved extra-curricular activities or field trips.
6. Transportation to and from school shall be provided as required by law to eligible non-public school pupils. All pupils riding on district buses shall be required to observe the bus district's conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation.
7. Buses, whether contracted or district owned, shall be kept in optimum condition and shall conform to all State safety regulations.
8. Kindergarten transportation is coordinated based on assigned times or pupils who live in a specific area. No transportation shall be provided to pupils whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) requests a change to their assigned Kindergarten times as determined by the school. Should a change in time be granted, transportation will be the responsibility of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
9. Walkers

The school district does not have responsibility or authority to establish walking routes. It is the responsibility of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to instruct their child to follow safe walking routes established by the local government.

10. Exception to Policy

Pre-school age children, ages three to five, who attend the Point Pleasant Schools shall not be eligible for attendance at the district's School Age Child Care Program which is established for pupils enrolled in the Point Pleasant Schools, grades Kindergarten - 5.

As a consequence, the Board of Education shall provide busing for the pre-school age children to relatives, designated baby sitters, or to established child care centers within the bounds of Point Pleasant.

The conditions established for this exception are:



- a. Pupils must be transported to and from the same bus stop daily. The pick-up and drop-off locations may be different, but each must be daily, five days a week.
- b. Once the bus stops are designated, they shall not be changed during the course of the school year.
- c. The request for bus transportation under this recorded exception to the Board's policy must be in writing and submitted to the office of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and shall designate the authorized adult who shall dispatch and receive the child.

Class and Athletic Trips

The Board encourages the use of district owned buses for class and athletic trips when such use does not interfere with the use of buses for regularly scheduled pupil transportation. Quotes are to be acquired by the Transportation Supervisor when district-owned buses cannot be used.

Transportation to Non-Public Schools

The Board of Education shall provide transportation to non-public schools on the same basis it provides transportation to pupils transported to schools within the district. State law limits such transportation to a maximum distance of twenty miles from home to school. Eligibility shall be in accordance with 6A:27-2.2. Distance shall be measured in accordance with 6A:27-1.2.

The Board reserves the right to reimburse the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a non-public school pupil the amount specified by law in lieu of providing transportation.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) requesting transportation to a non-public school shall file a B6-T Application Transportation to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Department of Education, prior to March 15 of the preceding school year.

Transportation - Physically Handicapped and Classified Pupils

In accordance with the rules of the State Board of Education, the Board shall provide transportation for the physically handicapped pupils, special education or classified pupils, pupils on a tuition basis outside the district, vocational pupils, and such other pupils as may be recommended to the Board by the Superintendent of Schools.



Transportation - Vocational School

The Board shall provide transportation for pupils attending vocational schools outside the district. Upon application to the Board and with the approval of the Superintendent, such pupils may be eligible to use their own cars in lieu of school transportation.

Behavior - School Bus

The Board recognizes that for reasons of safety, unruly and obstreperous behavior cannot be condoned on school buses. Proper behavior is to be encouraged. Unruly behavior requires prompt disciplinary action including parent conference, suspension or withdrawal of bus privileges. The Principal of each school shall orient his/her pupils as to proper behavior, the prohibition of drinking, smoking, or other acts, and shall promulgate and disseminate rules for the regulations of bus behavior.

Cameras

In order to ensure the safety of transported pupils, the Board of Education will utilize video cameras whenever deemed necessary to monitor and record any inappropriate activity on school buses. This information may be used for disciplinary action against pupils or staff.

Individual Transportation

Where bus service is provided, a pupil has the option of utilizing such service or providing his/her own transportation upon waiver of liability.

Transportation of Pupils During Inclement Weather

In the event of a delayed opening, early dismissal, or emergency closing due to unsafe weather conditions, the Board of Education will follow the same transportation schedule for pick up and drop off of Point Pleasant pupils attending private schools and out-of-district placements, as the Point Pleasant Schools.

N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2; 39-1 et seq.; 46-23; 27:15-16; 39:1-1
N.J.A.C. 6A:21-1.1 et seq.; 27-2.1; 27-2.2; 27-1.2; 27-1.17

Adopted: May 26, 2009

