

TRANSPORTATION OF DISABLED STUDENTS

Background

Transportation for handicapped or disabled students is to be provided where possible balancing the needs of the student with the requirement to safely transport all students to school. Requests for the transportation of a handicapped or disabled student shall be considered on the individual circumstances of the student and the collective circumstances of the bus and bus route the handicapped student rides.

Procedures

1. Handicapped or disabled students that are mobile and exhibit a high level of self control may be transported on a school bus on the same basis as a regular passenger.
2. Handicapped or disabled students that are not mobile or do not exhibit a high level of self control may be transported to and from school provided that:
 - 2.1 An evaluation of the student be completed by a special needs consultant to provide information to assist with a decision.
 - 2.2 An Individual Program Plan (IPP) be completed; such plan to include specific program needs that relate to riding independently on a school bus.
 - 2.3 The Director of Learning Services is responsible for directing specific modifications that may be required to attend to the specific needs of the student.
 - 2.4 The bus driver, parents, Principal and special needs aide keep an open line of communications regarding the needs and progress of the student.
 - 2.5 Where the student is secured through a harness or locking mechanism (as in the case of a wheelchair) that appropriate arrangements be made by the bus driver to release the student and assist them to safety in the case of an emergency.

Adopted/Revised/Reviewed: JUN 2016/NOV 2019/JAN 2023/JUL 2023

Reference: Section 4, 11, 32, 33, 36, 37, 52, 53, 59, 59.1, 68, 197, 222, 225 Education Act
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Traffic Safety Act
Commercial Vehicle Safety Regulation 121/2009
Student Transportation Regulation 250/98 (Amended A.R. 125/2005)
Use of Highway and Rules of the Road Regulation 304/2002
Vehicle Equipment Regulation 122/2009