

**AUXILIARY SERVICES  
SERIES 700**

**702**

**TITLE: TRANSPORTATION**

To afford more equal opportunity for public school attendance, the board will, where practical, provide transportation for the public school students within the district. The board adopts as policy the current Standards for Idaho Schools Buses and Operations of the State of Idaho. The Board's primary concern in providing transportation services to students is the safety and protection of the health of students.

The District shall provide transportation to and from school for a student who:

1. resides at least one and one-half miles from the nearest appropriate school (determined by the nearest and best route from the junction of the driveway of the student's home and the nearest public road to the nearest door of the school the student attends or to a bus stop, whichever the case may be); or
2. is a student with a disability, whose IEP identifies transportation as a related service; or
3. in the judgment of the Board of Trustees, has another compelling and legally sufficient reason to receive transportation services, including the age or health or safety of the student.

The type of transportation provided by the District may be by a school bus or other vehicle, or by such individual transportation as paying the parent or guardian for individually transporting the student. The Board of Trustees may pay board and room reimbursements to a parent when a student resides within a non-transportation area (an area of a school district designated by the Board of Trustees as impractical, by reason of sparsity of students, remoteness or condition of roads) but is otherwise eligible for transportation and cannot be transported in any authorized manner. The Board of Trustees may authorize children attending nonpublic schools to ride a school bus provided that space is available and a fee to cover the per-seat cost for such transportation is collected.

Homeless students shall be transported in accordance with the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act and state law.

***Contracting for Transportation Services***

If the Board enters into a contract for transportation services, the contractor shall operate such equipment according to District policy and the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education. All contracts for the transportation of students shall be in writing in a form approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The contract shall be in effect for not more than five years. Prior to entering into a contract for transportation services, the District must advertise and bid for such services. The contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. In

determining what bid is the lowest responsible bidder, in addition to other enumerated specifications, the District will not only take into consideration the amount of the bid, the District will also consider the skill, ability and integrity of a contract to do faithful and conscientious work and promptly fulfill the contract according to the letter and spirit. References may be contacted.

A copy of the contract for transportation services will be filed with the Supervisor of Pupil Transportation in the Department of Education.

### ***School Bus Routes***

1. School bus routes shall be established with due consideration of the sum total of local conditions affecting the safety, economic soundness and convenience of its operation, including road conditions, condition of bridges and culverts, hazardous crossings, presence of railroad tracks and arterial highways, extreme weather conditions and variations, length of route, number of families and children to be serviced, availability of turn-around points, capacity of bus, and other related factors. Further, the Board of Trustees shall consider the criteria set out in its measuring and scoring instrument.

2. School bus drivers are encouraged to make recommendations in regard to establishing or changing routes.

3. Parents should be referred to the Superintendent for any request of change in routes, stops, or schedules.

### ***Bus Stops***

Buses should stop only at designated places approved by school authorities. Exceptions should be made only in cases of emergency and inclement weather conditions. Bus stops shall be chosen with safety in mind and protection of the health of the student.

School loading and unloading zones are to be established and marked to provide safe and orderly loading and unloading of students. The principal of each building is responsible for the conduct of students waiting in loading zones. The driver is to notify the administration of a delay in schedule. The administration will notify parents on routes and radio stations, if necessary.

### ***Driver Training and Responsibility***

Bus drivers shall observe all state statutes and administrative rules governing traffic safety and school bus operation. The Transportation Supervisor/Contractor and/or District shall, at the beginning of each school year, provide each driver with a copy of the Contractors/District's written rules for bus drivers and for student conduct on buses. Each bus driver shall meet the qualifications established by the state department of education, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Over the age of 18 years of age;
2. Be of good moral character;

3. Not be addicted to the use of intoxicants or narcotics
4. Possess a valid and appropriate commercial driver's license and other endorsements required by law, and, if applicable, a waiver for insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus issued by the State Department of Education;
5. Be medically qualified under the physical examination standards of the federal motor carrier safety regulations; provided, however, that individuals with insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, who are otherwise medically qualified under the physical examination standards of the federal motor carrier safety regulations, may request a waiver for this condition from the state department of education as provided in Idaho Code § 33-1509.

#### ***Teacher, Coach, or other Certified Staff Responsibility***

When a teacher, coach or other certified staff member is assigned to accompany students on a bus, such person shall be primarily responsible for the behavior of the students in his/her charge. The bus driver shall have final authority and responsibility for the bus.

#### **Responsibilities – Pupils**

order to assure the safety of all, the bus driver may hold students accountable for their conduct during the course of transportation and may recommend corrective action against a student. Bus drivers are expressly prohibited from using corporal punishment.

Further, the Board of Trustees shall consider the criteria set out in its measuring and scoring instrument which by this reference is incorporated in policy 702.2.

#### ***Inclement Weather***

The Board recognizes the unpredictability and resulting dangers associated with the weather in Idaho. To achieve the maximum safety for children and efficiency of operation, the Superintendent is empowered to make decisions as to the emergency operation of buses, the cancellation of bus routes and the closing of school in accordance with his/her best judgment. The Board may develop guidelines in cooperation with the Superintendent to assist him/her in making such decisions.

#### ***Emergencies Involving Transportation Vehicles***

In the event of an accident or other emergency, the bus driver shall follow the emergency procedures developed by the Transportation Supervisor/contractor and/or District. A copy of the emergency procedures shall be located in each bus. To ensure the success of such emergency procedures, each bus driver shall conduct an emergency evacuation drill within the first six weeks of each school semester. The District shall conduct such other drills and procedures as may be necessary.

Cross Reference: 8110 Safety Busing  
8120 Bus Routes, Stops and Non-Transportation Zones  
I.C. § 33-1501 Transportation Authorized  
I.C. § 33-1503 Payments when transportation not furnished  
IDAPA 08.02.03.109 Special Education  
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110)  
I.C. § 33-1510 Contracts for transportation service  
IDAPA 08.02.02.190.05 Contract for Transportation Services  
I.C. § 33-1508 Operation of School Buses  
I.C. § 33-1509 School Bus Drivers – Definition – Qualification – Duties  
IDAPA 08.02.02.170 School Bus Drivers and Vehicle Operation  
I.C. § 33-1502 Bus Routes—Non-transportation zones

Reference: Idaho Code 33-1501, 33-1509, 33-1510

Adopted: 7/10/97

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