

Policy 16

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

The Board establishes school attendance and transportation service areas such that the resources, programs, schools, and the transportation system are fully and efficiently utilized for the benefit of students.

Specifically

1. The Board shall establish an attendance area and a transportation service area for each school site.
2. The planning of bus routes will maximize efficiencies.
3. Wherever practical, student pick-ups and drop offs will be organized so that students who are picked up first in the morning are dropped-off first in the afternoon.
4. The Board may temporarily or permanently alter school attendance areas to meet the educational needs of students and operational efficiency of the Division.
5. Transportation services without fee shall be provided for students who live 2.4 or more kilometers from their designated school (distance calculation includes walkways, pathways, roadways, alleys, parks, ditches).
6. A fee shall be levied by the Board for transportation services to students who wish to attend a school other than the one they have been directed to attend, or to students who live less than 2.4 kilometers from their designated school.
7. Transportation services without fee shall be provided for students in the following circumstances:
 - 7.1 Students with Special Needs who are directed to a special education program;
 - 7.2 ECS to Grade 3 students who live less than 2.4 km from their designated school but who have to walk along a road with posted speed limits of 50 km/hr or higher without the benefit of a walkway other than the shoulder of the road;
 - 7.3 Grade 4 to 6 students who live less than 2.4 km from their designated school but who have to walk along a road with posted speed limits of 80 km/hr or higher without the benefit of a walkway other than the shoulder of the road;

- 7.4 Students enrolled in a French Immersion Program who live beyond 2.4 kilometers and east of Highway 2. Students who live west of Highway 2 but only if there is a seat available and the student meets the bus at a designated stop on an existing route.
- 7.5 Students enrolled in a Year Round Education Program who live beyond 2.4 kilometers and east of highway 2. Students who live west of Highway 2 but only if there is a seat available and the student meets the bus at a designated stop on an existing route.
- 7.6 Students who move from one transportation service area to another during the school year may receive transportation services to the school they registered in at the beginning of the school year, but only if there is a seat available and the student meets the bus at a designated stop on an existing route. If approved, transportation services will terminate at the end of that school year.
8. Ineligible passengers may be transported if the fee established by the Board is paid and, there is a seat available on the bus and the student has been accepted in the program at the school. Entitlement to this service will be reassessed each year thus a parent or guardian is required to re-apply annually. This service is provided on a first come, first served basis and registration is accepted starting **August 15** of each year.
9. Where it is not feasible to establish a bus route, the Board may provide the parent with a grant in lieu of transportation whereby the parent will be responsible for the conveyance of the student to and from school. The grant shall not exceed the amount that the Board receives to transport the student.
10. A boarding allowance will be paid to parents for students directed by the Board to attend a school of another board, organization or agency providing special education services that requires them to be absent from their residence. The allowance shall not exceed the funding provided to the Board for this purpose.
11. An allowance for weekend travel expense will be paid to parents for transporting their child(ren) between their permanent residence and boarding place for students directed by the Board to attend a school of another board, organization or agency providing special education services. The allowance shall not exceed the funding provided to the Board for this purpose.

Legal Reference: Section 51, 52, 53, School Act

Cross Reference: Administrative Procedure 305 – Attendance Areas