



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Ready for Board
Title	TRANSPORTATION
Code	po8600
Status	First Reading
Adopted	August 5, 2019
Last Revised	February 1, 2021
Last Reviewed	October 25, 2022

8600 - **TRANSPORTATION**

Each September, the School Corporation must review the Corporation's school bus routes and school bus safety policies to improve the safety of students and adults.

The Corporation shall provide transportation for students who live one (1) mile or more as measured by approved walking routes from the student's residence to the student's school.

School buses shall be purchased, housed, and maintained by the Corporation for the transportation of students between their home areas and the schools of the Corporation to which they are assigned. All use of tobacco including smoking is prohibited on a school bus. A school bus is a motor vehicle that is designed and constructed for the accommodation of at least ten (10) passengers and used for the transportation of school children to and from school, school athletic games or contests, and other school functions. The term "school bus" does not include a privately owned automobile with a capacity of not more than five (5) passengers that is used for the purpose of transporting school children to and from school.

The Board may enter into a contractual agreement with a qualified contractor for the transportation of students.

The Board may enter into an agreement with an agency or organization serving persons with a developmental disability in which a school bus or special purpose bus used by the Corporation may be used to transport persons with a developmental disability who are at least two (2) years of age to and from programs for persons with a developmental disability.

A special purpose bus is any motor vehicle designed and constructed for the accommodation of more than ten (10) passengers that meets the Federal school bus safety standards, except the requirement for stop arms and flashing lights, and that is used by the Board for transportation purposes not appropriate for school buses. A special purpose bus is not required to be constructed, equipped, or painted as specified for regular school buses.

A special purpose bus with a capacity of less than sixteen (16) passengers is not subject to the limitations placed on a school bus traveling no more than 200 miles out of state.

A special purpose bus may not be used to provide transportation of school children between their residence and school (except for persons enrolled in a special program, i.e., for the habilitation or rehabilitation of students with developmental disabilities, orthopedic impairments, or multiple disabilities between their residence and the school).

A special purpose bus may be used for transportation of students from one school to another school.

A special purpose bus may be used to transport students and their supervisors, including coaches, managers, and sponsors to athletic, other extracurricular school activities, and field trips.

A special purpose bus also may be used to transport homeless students.

If the special purpose bus has a capacity of less than sixteen (16) passengers, the operator must hold a valid operator's, chauffeur's, commercial drivers, or public passenger chauffeur's license. If the special purpose bus has a capacity of more than fifteen (15) passengers, or is used to provide transportation.

- A. between an individual's residence and the school for an individual enrolled in a special program for the habilitation or rehabilitation of persons with a developmental or physical disability, and, if applicable, the individual's sibling;
- B. between an individual's residence and the preschool facility site for preschool children who attend preschool offered by the Corporation; or
- C. between an individual's residence and the program for persons with a developmental disability for persons with a development disability; the operator must meet the requirements of a regular school bus driver.

~~A special purpose bus is not required to be constructed, equipped, or painted as specified for a regular school bus.~~

Transportation of eligible vocational or special education children between their home areas and schools outside the Corporation shall be arranged through the use of Corporation-owned vehicles, through cooperation with other corporations, through commercial carriers, and/or by other means in the most efficient and economical manner.

The Corporation shall provide transportation to non-public school students with legal settlement in the Corporation when seats are available on a bus on an existing route. This transportation shall be provided without charge when the Corporation does not incur additional expense, and shall be to and from the students' non-public school or the point on an established bus route that is nearest or most easily accessible to the non-public school.

Vehicle routes shall be established so that an authorized vehicle stop is available within reasonable walking distance of the home of a student entitled to transportation services.

If a school bus driver must load or unload an elementary school student at a location that requires the student to cross a roadway that is a U.S. route or state route, the Superintendent shall present the school bus route to the Board for approval.

The Board authorizes the installation and use of video recording devices in the school buses to assist the drivers in providing for the safety and well-being of the students while on a bus.

Revised 1/6/20

© Neola 2020

Legal

I.C. 16-41-37-2.3, 16-41-37-4 ("school bus" defined, smoking prohibited)

I.C. 9-13-2-161 ("school bus" defined)

I.C. 9-19-10-2 (use of safety belt by motor vehicle occupants)

I.C. 9-21-12 (school bus operation)

I.C. 20-26-5-4(a)(5) (purchase of buses) and (8) (employ drivers)

I.C. 20-27-3 (State School Bus Committee)

I.C. 20-27-9 (use of school buses)

I.C. 20-27-11-1

I.C. 20-27-10-0.5

I.C. 20-27-12-0.1

I.C. 20-27-12-0.3

I.C. 20-27-12-5

Hoagland v. Franklin Township Community School Corporation, No. 49S02-1410-PL-643, 27 N.E.3d 737 (Ind. 2015) (school corporation may discontinue transportation services for students)

Archdiocese of Indpls. v. MSD of Lawrence Twp., 945 N.E.2d 757 (Ind. App. 2011); Frame v. South Bend Schools, 480 N.E.2d 261 (Ind. App. 1985) (transporting non-public school students)