

Shamong Township Board of Education 2

District Policy Manual

Business & Non-Instructional Operations

Series 3000

Transportation Routes & Services

Policy 3541.1

Date Adopted: April 11, 1995

Date Revised: January 16, 2001, June 12, 2007

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The Board of Education directs the Superintendent of Schools to supervise development of bus routes to provide safe, economical and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

- A. Pupils who live remote from the schoolhouse as defined by New Jersey law;
- B. Educationally disabled pupils in accordance with their IEP;
- C. Pupils participating in board-approved extracurricular activities or field trips;
- D. Pupils whose route to the school is deemed hazardous by the board;
- E. Other pupils as required by law.

The criteria to be used in designing routes and assigning pupils to them shall include:

- A. The distance to be traveled to and from school;
- B. The age and state of health of the child;
- C. The requirements of the instructional program;
- D. The hazards involved on the route to be traveled.

Transportation to and from school shall be provided as required by law to eligible nonpublic school pupils and to pupils attending charter schools. All pupils riding on district buses shall be required to observe the district's bus conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation.

On a space-available basis, the Board may transport both public and nonpublic students who live within statutory limits (courtesy busing). The Board or a cooperative transportation services agency may charge for this service. The charge shall be equitable and shall include, but not be limited to, the cost of fuel, driver salaries and insurance.

Buses, whether contracted or district-owned, shall be kept in optimum condition and shall conform to all state safety regulations.

Bus routes must be acted upon by the board and submitted to the county office.

Waiver of Eligible Transportation Services

Each school year a parent/guardian of a pupil who is eligible for transportation services under the law may sign a written statement waiving the pupil's right to those services. This written statement shall be in the form that is determined by the Department of Education.

If there is a case of a family or economic hardship during the school year in which the parent/guardian has waived the pupil's transportation service rights, the district will make provisions to provide transportation to the pupil during this hardship.

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Courtesy Transportation Along Hazardous Routes

The Shamong Township Board of Education is concerned with the safety of students who walk to and from school along roadways determined to be hazardous routes. The Superintendent of Schools shall work in conjunction with municipal officials to determine the criteria necessary for the classification of a hazardous route and shall maintain a list of all hazardous routes in the district. The Superintendent of Schools shall develop rules and regulations to supply courtesy transportation for students who must walk to and from school along routes designated by the Shamong Township School District to be hazardous routes. The criteria used to determine hazardous routes may include but shall not be limited to the following:

- A. Population density;
- B. Traffic volume;
- C. Average vehicle velocity;
- D. Existence or absence of sufficient sidewalk space;
- E. Roads and highways that are winding or have blind curves;
- F. Roads or highways with steep inclines and declines;
- G. Drop-offs that are close proximity to a sidewalk;
- H. Bridges or overpasses that must be crossed to reach the school;
- I. Train tracks or trestles that must be crossed to reach the school;
- J. Busy roads and highways that must be crossed to reach the school.

Students who would otherwise be required to walk to and from school along routes designated as hazardous shall be included in the calculation of the district's regular vehicle capacity utilization.

Legal References

NJSA 18A:7F-25 Transportation aid
18A:22-8.6 Transportation (budget line item)
18A:39-1 et seq. Transportation To and From Schools
18A:46-19.6 Transportation to location or maintenance of vehicular classrooms to obtain services; payment of cost
18A:46-23 Transportation of pupils; special classes; handicapped children; state aid
39:3-10.9 et al. New Jersey Commercial Drivers License Act
39:3-27 Free registration of certain vehicles; transfer to other motor vehicles

NJAC 6A:27-1.1 et seq. Student Transportation
6A:30-1.1 et seq. Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts

Parents for Student Safety, Inc., v. Morris Bd. of Ed., 1986 S.L.D. (February 5), St. Bd. rev'g 1984 S.L.D. (August 24), aff'd App. Div., unreported decision (docket no. A-3257- 85-T7, decided February 17, 1987) certif. den. 108 N.J. 180 (1987)
Wayne Board of Education v. Kraft et al., 139 NJ 597 (1995)
Policies and Procedure Manual for Pupil Transportation NJ State Department of Education
Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts
New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC)