



Code: **EEAC**
Adopted: 4/85
Revised/Readopted: 9/25/91; 9/11/02; 9/09/09;
1/29/14
Orig. Code(s): 5180

School Bus Safety Program

The superintendent or his/her designee will ensure that an appropriate school bus safety program is in place in accordance with federal, state and local rules and laws. The scope of the school bus safety program will encompass the following areas:

1. Student Safety Instruction – Schools, transportation, and the PBS coordinator will work together to ensure a quality student bus safety program is in place and shall meet the requirements as provided in OAR 581-053-0002 Pupil Instruction.
2. Vehicle Design/Construction – All school buses shall be purchased and maintained in accordance with the safety standards set forth in the Minimum Standards for Oregon School Buses as published by the Oregon Department of Education.
3. Vehicle Capacity Ratings – Vehicles will not be operated with passenger loads beyond the manufacturer’s rated capacity except where extreme extenuating circumstances may put student safety at risk. The district will use the transportation department’s Bus Capacity Guide as a guideline in determining the passenger load capacity of each school bus.
4. Passenger Safety Restraints/Devices – The district will adhere to federal, state, and local rules and laws regarding the use of car and booster seats, seat belts, and other safety restraint systems.
5. Inclement Weather – The district will have a plan for addressing pupil transportation during inclement weather to include no less than the following.
 - a. Weather forecast monitoring.
 - b. Road check procedures and reporting.
 - c. Decision making procedures and protocols.
 - d. Communication procedures to provide notice of weather related schedule changes to the public and staff.
 - e. Inclement weather late start procedures.
 - f. Inclement weather emergency closure procedure.
6. Emergency Evacuation – Bus emergency evacuations will only be done when keeping students on the bus puts them at greater risk than evacuating them from the bus. Drivers and students will be trained in the proper methods of evacuation and when to evacuate a bus.
7. Safety Committee Accident Review – The transportation department will establish a safety committee in accordance with OSHA regulations. The safety committee will review all preventable vehicle accident reports and make recommendations on how to prevent/reduce vehicle accidents.

8. Vehicle Maintenance – School buses will be maintained in accordance with the ODE Maintenance Manual.
9. Evaluation of Safe Routes and Bus Stops – The district will establish and maintain criteria for evaluating the safety of walking routes and location of school bus stops.
10. Pupil Transportation Service and Supplemental Safety Plan – General education students residing in areas that are not eligible for pupil transportation under ORS 327.043 will not be provided transportation service except as provided by board policy, administrative rule, or as determined necessary in accordance with a supplemental safety plan adopted by the Board of Directors and approved by the Oregon State Board of Education (reference policy EEA).

The superintendent or his/her designee will develop administrative rules as necessary to implement this policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 811.210	OAR 581-053-0004	OAR 581-053-0410
ORS 811.215	OAR 581-053-0010	OAR 581-053-0420
ORS 815.055	OAR 581-053-0021	OAR 581-053-0430
ORS 815.080	OAR 581-053-0031	OAR 581-053-0440
ORS 820.100 to-820.190	OAR 581-053-0210	OAR 581-053-0445
	OAR 581-053-0240	OAR 581-053-0510
OAR 437-002-0220 to-0227	OAR 581-053-0310	OAR 581-053-0520
OAR 581-022-1420	OAR 581-053-0320	OAR 581-053-0530
OAR 581-053-0002	OAR 581-053-0330	OAR 735-102-0010
OAR 581-053-0003	OAR 581-053-0340	