

Central School District 13J

Code: **EEA**
Adopted: 11/03/08
Readopted: 4/04/11; 5/07/12; 11/05/12;
2/05/15
Orig. Code(s): EEA

Student Transportation Services

School transportation services will be provided for transporting students to and from school and as authorized by the District to and from curricular and extracurricular activities, from one school or facility to another, and on school-sponsored field trips that are extensions of classroom learning experiences. Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the student's school of origin¹ as required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA). These services shall be provided throughout the regularly scheduled year and during the regular school day as determined by the district administration.

Students grades K- 8 who live one mile from school will be transported. Students grades 9-12 who live one and one half miles from school will be transported. Mileage exceptions for health, safety, disability, and other reasons will be made for the benefit of students with the approval of the superintendent, or business manager or designee, in accordance with the district's approved supplemental plan.

Miles from school will be determined by the district's transportation supervisor in accordance with OAR 581-023-0040 (1)(c).

Transportation may be provided for resident students who have received approval to attend out-of-district or out-of-attendance area public schools.

The district may use Type 10 School Activity Vehicles to transport students from home to school, school to home and from district-sponsored activities.

Students attending any private or parochial school under the compulsory school attendance laws will, where the private or parochial school is along or near the bus route, be provided equally the riding privileges given to public school students.

Preschool students with disabilities who have transportation as a related service and children from birth to age three who are enrolled in an eligible program shall be provided home to school transportation.

A seat that fully supports each person and meets the minimum standards and specifications of law will be provided at all times. A person who weighs 40 pounds or less must be properly secured with a child safety system that meets the minimum standards and specifications established by the Department of Transportation under ORS 815.055. A person who weighs more than 40 pounds, is four feet nine inches or shorter and under eight years of age must be properly secured with a child safety system that elevates the person so that a safety belt or safety harness properly fits the person.² A person who is taller than four feet

¹"School of origin" means the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.

²"Proper fit" means the lap belt of the safety belt or safety harness is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.

nine inches or eight years of age or older must be properly secured with a safety belt or harness that meets the requirements under ORS 815.055. In accordance with ORS 811.210 and 811.215 vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds used for student transportation are exempt from statutory requirements unless they have been equipped with lap belts. Vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds that have been equipped with lap belts must meet child car seat requirements as set forth in law.

School buses carrying students will be considered extensions of the school experience. All students using school transportation will abide by the code of conduct posted in each school bus or school activity vehicle. Violations of such code, as well as other conduct which is improper or which jeopardizes the safety of self or others, will be reported by the school bus/vehicle driver to the supervisor. The supervisor will, as soon as possible, inform the appropriate building principal of such occurrences. Violators may be denied use of transportation for a period of time as deemed proper by the building principal and/or transportation supervisor.

The district may contract with individuals to transport students to certain special education programs and under circumstances when bus service is not otherwise provided. A contracted service requires approval of the superintendent or business manager.

A procedure shall be developed in each building and followed consistently to provide a system for informing parents when students are to leave school in buses or private cars to take part in school instructional and related programs and to obtain parental permission when appropriate. As provided by OAR 581-053-002(4), the appropriate records shall be sent with each bus for the students on trips other than home to school. Records should also be on the student's "regular" home to school bus.

The school bus/vehicle driver will be responsible for the school bus/vehicle at all times from departure until return. The driver will not participate in any activities that might impair his/her driving abilities:

1. The bus driver is responsible for the student while the student is on the bus. That responsibility starts when the student is picked up and ends when the student reaches his/her designated stop or school.
2. Students being transported are under the supervision of the bus driver. This means that the bus driver is in charge of the students while they are riding the bus and while they are board and unloading at the bus stops.
3. The bus driver does not have the authority to remove a student from the bus while enroute to and from school.
4. The bus driver may let a student off only at his/her designated stop or school unless written permission, signed and dated, is provided by the parent/guardian to permit the student to disembark at another established stop.

Appropriate training related to specific protocols, including confidentiality requirements, will be provided to drivers.

Aides or assistants that ride a school bus shall receive training on emergency procedures and their role in the safe transportation of all students on the bus.

The district will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to school bus transportation.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

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| ORS 327.006 | ORS 815.055 | OAR 581-053-0031 |
| ORS 327.033 | ORS 815.080 | OAR 581-053-0040 |
| ORS 327.043 | ORS 820.100 to-820.190 | OAR 581-053-0053 |
| ORS 332.405 | | OAR 581-053-0060 |
| ORS 332.415 | OAR 581-021-0050 to-0075 | OAR 581-053-0070 |
| ORS 339.240 to-339.250 | OAR 581-022-1530 | OAR 581-053-0210 |
| ORS 343.155 to-343.246 | OAR 581-023-0040 | OAR 581-053-0220 |
| ORS 343.533 | OAR 581-053-0002 | OAR 581-053-0230 |
| ORS 343.155 to-343.243 | OAR 581-053-0003 | OAR 581-053-0240 |
| ORS 811.210 | OAR 581-053-0004 | OAR 735-102-0010 |
| ORS 811.215 | OAR 581-053-0010 | |

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6315, 7912.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver, July 18, 2012.

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431-11435 (2005).

Cross Reference(s):

EEAB - School Bus Scheduling and Routing

EEAC - School Bus Safety Program

EEACC - Student Conduct on School Buses