

School Bus Safety Program

The superintendent will ensure instruction for all students in school bus safety and emergency evacuation procedures is provided. Drivers shall assist in the instruction. The following types of instruction will be given:

1. Emergency evacuation through available emergency exits;
2. Safe operation of windows;
3. Awareness and knowledge of posted bus safety rules and regulations;
4. Location and proper use of fire extinguishers.

Students who are regularly transported by the district will be provided such instruction within the first six weeks of each half of the school year. Students who are not regularly transported by the district will be given instruction at least once in the first half of each school year. The district will document and maintain records of the content and dates of instruction.

Buses will not exceed vehicle design capacity for seating at any time unless an unforeseen or unusual circumstance arises. Passengers will be provided a seat that fully supports them. A child safety system that elevates the person so that a safety belt or safety harness properly fits the person shall be provided for all children four or five years of age or who weigh between 40 and 60 pounds, regardless of age, and are transported on district vehicles. District vehicles 10,000 pounds or more or equipped with a lap belt only are exempt from these requirements. The child safety system shall meet the minimum standards and specifications of law.

During adverse weather conditions, the superintendent may alter bus schedules or temporarily suspend bus services. The superintendent or his/her designee will advise local radio stations and other media of any changes in bus schedules or services.

In the case of emergency or disaster, evacuation of students will be carried out according to the district's emergency plan.

An accident review board will study accidents involving district buses and will make recommendations to avoid similar accidents.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 811.210
ORS 815.055
ORS 815.080
ORS 820.100 - 820.190

OAR 437-002-0220 to -0227
OAR 581-022-1420

OAR 581-053-0002 to -0015
OAR 581-053-0512 to -0550
OAR 735-102-0010

Cross Reference(s):

Policy EBC/EBCA - Emergency Procedures and Disaster Plans
Policy EBCD - Emergency Closures