

### Operational Services

#### Transportation

The District shall provide free transportation for any student in the District who resides: (1) at a distance of one and one-half miles or more from his or her assigned school, unless the School Board has certified to the Ill. State Board of Education that adequate public transportation is available, or (2) if adequate public transportation is not available, within one and one-half miles from his or her assigned school where walking to or from school or to or from a pick-up point or bus stop would constitute a serious safety hazard due to either (a) vehicular traffic or rail crossing or (b) *a course or pattern of criminal activity*, as defined in the Ill. Streetgang Terrorism Omnibus Prevention Act, 740 ILCS 147/. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may file a petition with the Board requesting transportation due to the existence of a serious safety hazard. Free transportation service and vehicle adaptation is provided for a special education student if included in the student's individualized educational program. Non-public school students shall be transported in accordance with State law. Homeless students shall be transported in accordance with the Education for Homeless Children Act. Foster care students shall be transported in accordance with Section 6312(c)(5)(B) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Regular education routes shall be planned, scheduled and adjusted to the capacity of the bus to serve students whose residences are one and one-half miles or more from their attending school, except as provided or amended by federal or State law, or by regulations of the Illinois State Board of Education. The number of bus stops per route shall be kept to a reasonable minimum to maintain consistency, safety, and fiscal responsibility.

If a student is at a location within the District, other than his or her residence, for child care purposes at the time for transportation to and/or from school, that location may be considered for purposes of determining the one and one-half miles from the school attended. Pick-up and drop-off locations for students in day care must be along the District's regular routes and to the same school that the student would attend if transported to/from his or her residence. The District will not discriminate among types of locations where day care is provided, which may include the premises of licensed providers, relatives' homes, or neighbors' homes.

Bus schedules and routes shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee and shall be altered only with the Superintendent or designee's approval and direction. Each bus route approved or revised by the Superintendent or designee shall be planned to ensure safety, economy and efficiency and shall meet the requirements of the Illinois State Board of Education. To the greatest extent practicable, bus routes shall be restricted to main routes and publicly maintained roads that do not involve a dead end; terminate in a cul-de-sac; require backing up the school bus; and are sufficiently wide so tree limbs, bushes and similar hazards are not an issue. Bus stops should be visible to vehicular traffic at least 200 feet in both directions, not on a steep grade, blind curve or obstructed by buildings or large signs.

No school employee may transport students in school or private vehicles unless authorized by the administration.

Every vehicle regularly used for the transportation of students must pass safety inspections in accordance with State law and Ill. Dept. of Transportation regulations. The strobe light on a school bus may be illuminated only when the school bus is actually being used as a school bus and 1) is stopping or stopped for loading or discharging students on a highway outside an urban area; or 2) is bearing one or more students.

The Superintendent shall implement procedures in accordance with State law for accepting comment calls about school bus driving.

All contracts for charter bus services must contain the clause prescribed by State law regarding criminal background checks for bus drivers.

#### Pre-Trip and Post-Trip Vehicle Inspection

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a pre-trip and post-trip inspection procedure to ensure that the school bus driver: (1) tests the two-way radio and ensures that it is functioning properly before the bus is operated, and (2) walks to the rear of the bus before leaving the bus at the end of each route, work shift, or work day, to check the bus for children or other passengers in the bus.

LEGAL REF: 20 U.S.C. §6312(c)(5)(B), Elementary and Secondary Education Act.  
42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.  
105 ILCS 5/10-22.22 and 5/29-1 et seq.  
105 ILCS 45/1-15 and /1-17.  
625 ILCS 5/1-148.3a-5, 5/1-182, 5/11-1414.1, 5/12-813.1, 5/12-815, 5/12-816,  
5/12-821, and 5/13-109.  
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.510 and 226.750; Part 120.  
92 Ill.Admin.Code Part 440.

CROSS REF: 4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Ethics), 5:280 Duties and Qualifications), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)

Adopted: June 21, 2010  
Revised: April 14, 2014  
Approved: May 12, 2014  
Revised: June 12, 2017  
Approved: August 7, 2017  
Revised: November 27, 2017  
Approved: December 11, 2017  
Reviewed: June 13, 2019  
Approved: July 15, 2019  
Reviewed/Approved: December 9, 2019  
Reviewed/Approved: January 10, 2022