



3545

Transportation

Policy 3545

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Review Dates:

I. PURPOSE

An appropriate district service offered to students who meet certain criteria is access to quality, safe and reliable transportation to and from school each day. The purpose of this policy is to establish the district policy regarding provision of transportation to students.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. Minneapolis Public Schools offers transportation or the means of transportation to and from schools to students who qualify under state and district rules, except for students whose transportation privileges have been revoked, or have been voluntarily surrendered by the student's parent.
- B. Transportation shall be provided in a manner that protects the health, welfare and safety of students.
- C. While transportation is an appropriate service to provide to students, transportation is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student. Transportation for otherwise eligible students may be suspended or revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct rules, or violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus pursuant to district policies. Such suspensions or revocations from transportation services do not constitute an exclusion, expulsion or suspension from school under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or Individual Accommodation Plans (IAPs) may have their transportation privileges suspended or revoked only in accordance with federal law.
- D. If requested by the parent of a nonresident student, the District shall provide transportation to the nonresident student within the borders of the district at the same level of service that is provided to resident students.
- E. The District will provide appropriate transportation services to students with a disability whose Individual Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Individual Accommodation Plan (IAP) requires transportation.
- F. Transportation of a student with a disability who has not yet enrolled in kindergarten, who receives special education services from the district in a location other than the student's home, shall be provided to and from the student's home to the location where services are provided at the request of the student's parent without regard to the state required two mile distance threshold, or any other distance threshold determined by the Superintendent.



- G. Transportation shall be provided by the district for a resident student with a disability, or a resident student with a short-term or temporary disability, who is temporarily placed for care and treatment in a day program outside of the City of Minneapolis but within twenty-five (25) miles of 1250 Broadway Avenue West, Minneapolis Minnesota. If a Minnesota Court orders the district to transport such a student beyond the twenty-five (25) mile radius from 1250 Broadway Avenue West, the district shall comply with such an order.
- H. The District may establish, for the purposes of stabilizing enrollment and reducing mobility, a full-service school zone and may provide transportation for students attending a school in that zone.
- I. Resident students who enroll outside of the district through the Enrollment Options Program are not eligible for district provided transportation.
- J. Resident students who enroll in post-secondary institutions under the post-secondary enrollment options program are not eligible for district-provided transportation to those post-secondary institutions except as such transportation is through means of use of a public transit fare card issued to accomplish transportation to and from the district school of enrollment.
- K. Homeless students shall be provided with transportation services comparable to other students in the school district and in conformance with state and federal law.
- L. The Superintendent may establish parameters and rules to allow the transportation of children of enrolled students between the student's home and a child care provider for the student's child on all regularly scheduled days of general school transportation.

III. SCHEDULES AND MANNER OF TRANSPORTATION

- A. Transportation shall be provided on all regularly scheduled school days according to the adopted school calendar. If the Superintendent, Governor of the State of Minnesota, or any other public official with the power to cancel school days in whole or in part, cancels school on the basis of weather or other conditions, transportation will be provided only to the extent that students already at school will be transported home. Transportation will be provided on any make-up days scheduled by the district due to cancellations of days within the adopted school calendar.
- B. The scheduling of bus routes and the designation of bus stops is the responsibility of the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.
- C. The means of transportation shall be determined by the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee in alignment with requirements of law.



IV. FEES

- A. The District may charge fees for transportation of students to and from extracurricular activities conducted at locations other than the school when student attendance is optional.
- B. The District may provide a means for secondary students not otherwise entitled to transportation to acquire public transit fare cards for a reduced cost. The provision of this opportunity does not imply eligibility for district-provided transportation.

V. TRANSPORTATION OF NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

- A. Students resident in the City of Minneapolis who are enrolled in non-public schools and who reside two miles or more from their school of enrollment are eligible for district transportation at the request of the student's parent. District transportation offered at the school of enrollment may be waived by the parent or adult student. District transportation offered to non-public school students is a privilege and not a right.
- B. Transportation provided under this section shall only be available on the days when regular transportation is provided to students attending district schools.
- C. Students enrolled in non-public schools receiving transportation through the district are subject to the rules for bus safety and bus conduct established by the district
- D. Students enrolled in non-public schools receiving transportation through the district may have their transportation privileges suspended or revoked for violation of school bus safety or conduct rules, or violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus pursuant to Minneapolis Public School district policies.
- E. The scheduling of routes, determination of the location and number of bus stops, manner and methods of transportation of non-public school students are in the sole discretion, control and management of the District.
- F. Students enrolled in non-public schools may be subject to additional rules imposed by their schools of enrollment that exceed those of Minneapolis Public Schools. District Employees shall not be required to enforce, monitor for compliance, or report violations of rules imposed by the non-public school.



Legal References:

20 U.S.C. §1415 (Individuals with Disabilities Act)
20 U.S.C. §794 (The Rehabilitation Act)
42 U.S.C. §11431, *et seq.* (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001)
42 U.S.C. §12132 (Americans with Disabilities Act)
Minn. Stat. §120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
Minn. Stat. §§121A.40 – 121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. §121A.59 (Bus Transportation is a Privilege Not a Right)
Minn. Stat. §123B.36 (Authorized Fees)
Minn. Stat. §§123B.84 - 123B.87 (Equal Treatment in Transporting Students)
Minn. Stat. §123B.88 (Independent School Districts: Transportation)
Minn. Stat. §123B.92 (Transportation Aid Entitlement)

Cross References:

MPS Policy 3546 (Bus Equipment and Drivers)
MPS Policy 3548 (Bus Safety)
MPS Policy 4002 (Harassment and Violence Prohibition)
MPS Policy 4025 (Drug-Free and Weapons-Free Schools and Workplace)
MPS Policy 5200 (Behavior Standards and Code of Conduct)
MPS Policy 5201 (Hazing and Bullying Prohibition)
MPS Policy 5210 (Student Personal Electronic Devices)
MPS Policy 5220 (Tobacco Use, Student)
MPS Policy 5631 (Drug-Free Schools, Chemical Health, Chemical Use and Abuse)
MPS Policy 5680 (Search of Students, Lockers, Desks, Motor Vehicles)
MPS Policy 6131 (School Calendar)
MPS Policy 6132 (School Day)
MPS Policy 6230 (Field Trips)
MPS Policy 6450 (Pupil Fees)
MPS Policy 6680 (Safety, Security and Emergency Preparedness)
MPS Policy 6681 (Accident Prevention and Reporting)
MPS Policy 6682 (Emergency Health Care)
MPS Policy 6692 (Student Medication)

MPS Regulation 3548 B (Reporting Bus Accidents)