

TRANSPORTATION BY PRIVATE VEHICLE

The Board authorizes students to be transported from the school in a privately owned vehicle on a case-by-case basis upon verification that the:

- A. ~~d~~Driver of the vehicle has a valid Florida drivers license; and
- B. ~~e~~Owner shows evidence that they have adequate automobile liability insurance during the time it is used to transport students; and
- C. ~~v~~Vehicle is designed to transport ten (10) or fewer passengers and meets all Federal motor safety standards for passenger cars; and the vehicle is in compliance with any administrative guideline developed for this policy; and

~~This section does not apply to any vehicle approved to transport students as found in this policy.~~

- D. ~~s~~Students are transported only in designated seating positions and that the driver and all passengers are employing the occupant crash protection system provided by the vehicle manufacturer; and
- E. ~~n~~Non-student driver has completed a criminal background screen that is in compliance with Board Policy 8475.

Upon approval of all the items listed above, the school principal or his/her designee can authorize students to travel in privately owned vehicles in any of the three (3) circumstances listed below:

- A. When a student is ill or injured and must be taken home or to a medical treatment facility under non-emergency circumstances; and
  - 1. The school has been unable to contact the student's parent or the parent or responsible adult designated by the parent is not available to provide the transportation; and
  - 2. Proper adult supervision of the student is available at the location to which the student is being transported; and

3. The transportation is approved by the school principal, or a school administrator designated by the principal to grant or deny such approval, or in the absence of the principal and designee, by the highest ranking school administrator or teacher available under the circumstances; and
  4. If the school has been unable to contact the parent prior to the transportation, the school shall continue to seek to contact the parent until the school is able to notify the parent of the transportation and the pertinent circumstances.
- B. When the transportation is in connection with a school function or event regarding which the school has undertaken to participate or to sponsor or provide the participation of students; and
1. The function or event is a single event that is not part of a scheduled series or sequence of events to the same location, such as, but not limited to, a field trip, a recreational outing, an interscholastic competition or cooperative event, an event connected with an extra-curricular activity offered by the school, or an event connected to an educational program, such as, but not limited to, a job interview as part of a cooperative education program; and
  2. Transportation is not available, as a practical matter, using a school bus or School District passenger car; and
  3. Each student's parent is notified, in writing, regarding the transportation arrangement and gives written consent before a student is transported in a privately owned motor vehicle.
- C. When a school principal and the students parent approves in writing that an employee such as school social workers or attendance officer to use their own motor vehicles to perform their duties of employment and such duties include the occasional transportation of students.

Schools may contract with a common carrier to transport students to and from in-season and post-season athletic contests and to and from a school function or event in which the school has undertaken to participate or to provide for or sponsor the participation of students. All common carriers' contracted to provide transportation services for a school must be approved by the District's Office of Transportation Services in advance of use.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, in an emergency situation that constitutes an imminent threat to student health or safety, school personnel may take whatever action is necessary under the circumstances to protect a student's health and safety.

F.S. 1006.22

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