

Non-Instructional Operations - *Regulations*

Transportation

Hazardous Conditions for Bus Travel

The Superintendent may decide not to allow school buses to travel down roads where the following hazardous conditions exist:

- a road grade which is steep enough to risk loss of control, particularly in inclement weather conditions;
- a road so narrow that a school bus or van will occupy more than half the width of such a road, unless the road is designated for one-way traffic only.
- a lack of visibility that reduces the driver's ability to handle the bus or van, to bring it to a full stop, to avoid oncoming vehicles or to safely pick up or discharge students;
- a road where the bus has to turn around or reverse in the possible presence of boarding students;
- a road that is unsuited for effective maneuverability of either bus or van especially in emergency situations or inclement weather conditions;
- a dead end road without a paved turnaround having a radius of at least 50 feet;
- any other road condition not listed which represents such an obvious hazard to the safety of students that a reasonable and prudent person would not approve of the use of the road.

Without express permission of the Board of Education, no bus shall enter onto any private road for the the purpose of picking up or discharging school children. Prior to Board approval, the owner of the road shall submit a certificate of insurance in an amount to be determined by the Superintendent.

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Appeals Process

In the event that the student is denied requested transportation or has had bus transportation suspended because of conduct, the parent, guardian, emancipated minor or pupil 18 years or older may in writing request a hearing before the Board of Education which shall be held within ten (10) days after the receipt of such written request, the Board shall make a stenographic record or tape recording of such hearing and shall make a finding within ten (10) days after such a hearing. Any person aggrieved by such a finding shall, upon request, be provided with a transcript of the hearing within thirty (30) days of such a request and may appeal to the State Board of Education as provided in the Connecticut General Statutes 10-186.

Any such hearing shall be in compliance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes, Section 4-177 to 4-180 inclusive.

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Hazardous Walking Conditions

- A. Any street, road, or highway which has no sidewalks or raised walk areas shall be deemed unduly hazardous for students enrolled in grades K through 4. For students enrolled in grades 5 through 12, such road, street, or highway may be deemed hazardous unless all of the following conditions exist:
1. There exists no line-of-site obstruction caused by a hill, curve, structure, out-cropping, land form, planting, snowbank, or other obscuring object or structure which may only be safely negotiated by vehicles traveling at speeds under fifteen miles per hour;
  2. The line-of-site visibility together with posted speed limits permit vehicular breaking/stopping distances in accordance with the Connecticut Drivers Manual;
  3. The traffic count is less than sixty vehicles per hour during the time that students are walking to or from school;
  4. There are three or more intersections with adequate traffic control;
  5. Man-made hazards including attractive nuisances are absent;
  6. The roadway available to vehicles, when plowed free of snow accumulation, has a minimum width of 16 feet.
- B. Any walkway or path in an area adjacent and parallel to railroad tracks shall be considered hazardous unless a suitable physical barrier along the entire pedestrian route is present and fixed between students and the tracks, and any crossing of railroad tracks that carry moving trains during hours that students are walking to or from school shall be deemed hazardous.
- C. A lake, pond, stream, culvert, or water-way may be deemed a hazard in the absence of a fence or other suitable barrier fixed between the student and the water.

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Hazardous Walking Conditions (Continued):

- D. Any roadway, walkway, or bridge having a drop of three or more feet per four feet of travel length on either side of the established lanes without a fence or other suitable barrier shall be deemed a hazard.
- E. Any street, road, walkway or path designated as a walking route for students which passes through an area which has a history of aggressive acts or molestation resulting in actual or threatened physical harm or moral degradation during the hours when students ordinarily walk to or from school shall be deemed hazardous.
- F. A situation shall be considered unduly hazardous when a board of education requires a student enrolled in a grade K through 8 or equivalent, to walk to or from school or bus stop at any time prior to one-half hour before sunrise or one-half hour after sunset.
- G. No student shall be required to cross any state highway, Candlewood Lake Road, or any railroad track.