

Summary of Proposed Action: (Indicate why action is necessary and the event of coordination accomplished in developing the proposal.)

Consistent with current law and practice.

Attorney's Memo:

Policy EDDA - Special Use of School Buses (Review)

Regulation EDDA-R(1) - Special Use of School Buses (Review)

Last reviewed: policy 5-9-13; reg 9-9-99

Changes Proposed: none

Impact of Charter System Status: none

Expressly Required by Law? no

Legal Compliance and Suggestions: This policy is consistent with OCGA §§ 20-2-1074 and 1075, which restrict non-school use of buses to "transportation for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and 4-H activities" (20-2-1074) and "recreational or educational activities" (20-2-1075), and in both cases require that "the cost of such transportation is reimbursed in full from federal, state, local, or funds other than school funds."

Regulation: EDDA-R(1)

Descriptor Code: Special Use of School Buses

1. Students who are transported to school approved activities will be transported on a school district school bus operated by a licensed school bus driver.

2. Only school district employees who are properly licensed will operate school district vehicles.

3. Neither private vehicles nor vehicles not federally designated as school buses will be used to transport students for any reason except on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the superintendent except as provided by in policy ED.

4. Parent consent must be obtained in advance about trips, their time, purpose and transportation arrangements.

5. This regulation applies to all situations. In the event of a medical emergency requiring immediate attention, 911 will be called.

6. Bus usage within the district is to be approved by the principal of the involved school and be within the field trip budget approved by the Board.

7. Athletic trips will be approved by the principal and the concerned athletic director. These trips will be within the limit of the approved budget. Every effort must be made to schedule and get approval for trips as soon as possible but certainly no less than one week before the date of the trip.

8. The transportation director will establish the number of buses that can be used for out-of-town trips on school days. This list will be published before school begins in the fall. Potential users will be scheduled on a first come first served basis and after designated resources are allocated, trips will not be scheduled on that day. Schools requesting trip dates will be offered alternate dates that are available. All users must schedule a date for their trip prior to purchasing tickets, making arrangements, etc.

9. Transportation of groups not associated with the schools will be limited to those transporting the elderly, persons with disabilities, and 4-H activities, and shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent. The cost of such transportation will be reimbursed in full by the organization requesting the use of district-owned school buses; however, in no instance should reimbursement come from school funds. The use of vehicles for purposes other than school related activities shall be in consonance with state laws.

CROSS REF.: IFCB Field Trips and Excursions STATE REF.: State Standards E 3.3 (1c) LEGAL REF.: O.C.G.A., 20-2-188; 20-2-1074

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.