

**STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES**

1. The School District shall provide pupil transportation services grades kindergarten through 12 consistent with applicable law. Students may receive transportation if they live one mile or more from their school of attendance in Goffstown. Distances are measured from the nearest school entrance along a responsible route to home. In addition, transportation shall be provided for all special education students, students attending the regional vocational school and others as prescribed by law.
2. Police and highway departments will be notified as to sidewalks and roads used by walkers. Exceptions to the walking distance will be made for those students whose routes are designated as hazardous by the Goffstown Police Department.
3. Bus stops will be chosen with concern for safety of the children waiting or being dropped off, and for those on the bus while stopped, and for the numbers of children using a stop. Buses shall stop only at designated stops, and shall pick up only students assigned to the bus. Bus loads must not exceed legal bus capacity.
4. Students may be required to walk a distance not exceeding one mile to an established school bus stop.
5. Students shall ride only on assigned buses from and to assigned stops. The PM bus drop-off and/or stop may differ from the AM pick-up stop only by written request from the parent/guardian to the Building Principal and approved no later than the student's first day of school. Such a request may be only to provide transportation to a regularly scheduled babysitter or day-care program or employment, and must remain constant after the initial request is granted. Daily changes in plans must be managed by the parent/guardian, and cannot be made the responsibility of the school district or of the bus driver.

School Bus Routes

1. Routes will be established using the most direct roads practicable for bus travel to serve those entitled to transportation service. Where an alternate route may be selected without sacrifice to efficiency or economy, preference will be given to that route which more directly serves the largest number of pupils. Routes will be designed to utilize as nearly as practicable the full carrying capacity of each bus. New routes will be established only when full capacity of the trips on existing routes has been reached or is imminent.
2. Bus routes will not be assigned on any Class VI roads
3. Bus routes will not be assigned on any private roads
4. Pupils attending private schools located within the District are entitled to the same transportation privileges within the District as are provided for pupils in public school.
5. Although not obligated to do so, the District may choose to pickup and drop-off students at local child care facilities based on school bus capacity. The District reserves the right to suspend said transportation at its discretion.

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6. Students entitled to transportation service will be assigned to a school bus and will be expected to adhere to the assignment. Parent requests for changes in a child's regular bus assignment should be sent to the school principal. Bus assignment changes will be made based on the following criteria:
 - A. Request must be in writing by parent or guardian.
 - B. Space must be available.
 - C. Change in a student's regular bus assignment may be approved for the year, the half year or the quarter. Changes for shorter periods will not be honored.
 - D. Emergency situations or one-day changes may be authorized on a case-by-case basis by the school principal. Any such one-time change must be requested in writing and in advance by the parent/guardian. The school principal will coordinate the change directly

The Role of Students and Parents in Transportation

The following guidelines suggest the role for students and parents as they relate to pupil transportation:

1. Parents/Guardians are responsible for the safety of their students from the time they leave home in the morning until the time they board the school bus; and at the end of the school day from the time the students depart from the bus until the time the student reaches home. Once the student enters the school bus, the authority lies with the bus driver and the District's bus company.
2. Students should leave home early enough so that they arrive at the designated school bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled arrival time of the school bus.
3. Riding the school bus is a privilege. This privilege may be temporarily denied or permanently revoked if misconduct of a student jeopardizes the safe operations of the school bus or the safety of students riding the bus. All school rules of conduct and behavior apply on the buses. Any infractions of such rules are to be reported by the bus driver to their supervisor. Transportation of any student suspended from bus riding becomes the total and private responsibility of the parents/guardian of that student for the duration of the suspension.
4. Parents/Guardians should be aware of their responsibility not only for their student's behavior while on the school bus, but also their responsibility for damage caused by their student(s) to the property of others, including the school bus.
5. Parents/Guardians should realize that weather determines how a student is to be dressed. Encourage your student to wear the type clothing that will not only keep him/her warm and enable him/her to see where he/she is going, but also permit him/her to be seen. If the student cannot be seen by the drivers of vehicles, they are in danger. For example, white

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clothing is difficult to see in snow, but makes one clearly visible at night. If the weather is inclement, the child should be dressed for the occasion and leave a few minutes earlier than his/her normal starting time in order to reach the school bus stop or school safely and on time.

6. In inclement weather announcements regarding the closing of schools or delayed opening begin at approximately 5:30 a.m. During severe weather conditions, pertinent information concerning the transportation program will be announced through approved District modes of communication.

Resolution of Conflicts

A parent who wishes to request a change or exemption from any of the Student Transportation policies shall direct that request first to the building principal. If the parent is not satisfied by the ruling of the building principal, he or she may appeal the ruling within five (5) days to the Superintendent. If the parent is again not satisfied by the ruling, he or she may appeal to the School Board within the next five-day period.

Legal References:

RSA 189:6 Transportation of Pupils
RSA 189:8 Limitations and Additions
RSA 189:9 Pupils in Private Schools
RSA 189:9-a Pupils prohibited for Disciplinary Reasons
RSA 193:12 Legal Residency Required
RSA 200:40 Emergency Care
RSA 570-A:2, Capture of Audio Recordings on School Buses Allowed
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34CFR Part 99

References:

Policy EEAC- Student Conduct on School Buses
Policy EEAC-R- Student Conduct on School Buses - Regulations
Policy EEAB School Bus Transportation- Walkers and Riders
Policy EEAG Use of Private Vehicles to Transport Students
Policy EEBC – Transportation for School Sponsored Events

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