

### 8600 TRANSPORTATION

The Board of Education directs the Superintendent to supervise development of bus routes to provide safe, economical and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

- A. Pupils who live remote from the schoolhouse as defined by New Jersey law;
- B. Educationally disabled pupils in accordance with their IEP;
- C. Pupils whose route to the school is deemed hazardous by the Board;
- D. Other pupils as required by law.

The criteria to be used in designing routes and assigning pupils to them shall include:

- A. The distance to be traveled to and from school;
- B. The age and state of health of the child;
- C. The requirements of the instructional program;
- D. The hazards involved on the route to be traveled.

In an effort to provide a safe, predictable and accountable system for student transportation in the most efficient and cost effective manner, where appropriate, students will only be picked up and dropped off at the specific common stops as designated by the transportation department. Except for emergency or as directed by the transportation department, drivers will not be permitted to accept or release students at undesignated stops.

The transportation department will determine and assign stop locations based on specific roadway and community conditions.

Drivers are not permitted to make changes to students' bus stops. Students are to be picked up and dropped off at their assigned bus stop. Students are not permitted to switch buses unless there is a documented emergency and the school has been notified.



An alternate bus stop for pickup or dismissal may be requested on a permanent basis. (Example – A parent may request 1 location for consistent pick-up and 1 location for consistent drop-off) Consideration will be given for such requests only within the home school's current sending boundary and if space is available on the appropriate route.

Transportation to and from school shall be provided as required by law to eligible nonpublic school pupils and to pupils attending charter schools. All pupils riding on district buses shall be required to observe the district's bus conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation.

On a space-available basis, the Board may transport both public and nonpublic pupils who live within statutory limits (courtesy busing). The Board or a cooperative transportation services agency may charge for this service. The charge shall be equitable and shall include, but not limited to, the cost of fuel, driver salaries and insurance.

Buses, whether contracted or district-owned, shall be kept in optimum condition and shall conform to all State safety regulations.

Bus routes must be acted upon by the Board and submitted to the county office.

The Howell Township Board of Education is concerned with the safety of pupils who walk to and from school along roadways determined to be hazardous routes. The Superintendent shall work in conjunction with municipal officials to determine the criteria necessary for the classification of a hazardous route and shall maintain a list of all hazardous routes in the district. The Superintendent shall develop routes and regulations to supply courtesy transportation for pupils who must walk to and from school along routes designated by the Howell Township School District to be hazardous routes. The criteria used to determine hazardous routes may include but shall not be limited to the following:

- A. Population density;
- B. Traffic volume;
- C. Average vehicle velocity;
- D. Existence or absence of sufficient sidewalk space;
- E. Roads and highways that are winding or have blind curves;
- F. Roads or highways with steep inclines and declines;



# POLICY

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- G. Bridges or overpasses that must be crossed to reach the school;
- H. Train tracks or trestles that must be crossed to reach the school;
- I. Busy roads and highways that must be crossed to reach the school.

Pupils who would otherwise be required to walk to and from school along routes designated as hazardous shall be included in the calculation of the district's regular vehicle capacity utilization.

N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 27:15-16

N.J.S.A. 39:3B-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1 et seq.; 6A:27-2.1 et seq.; 6A:27-3.1

Adopted: 03 January 2013

Revised: 26 August 2015

