

zBillings School District 2

NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

Transportation of Students with Disabilities

The Board authorizes transportation be provided as a related service when a student with a disability requires special transportation in order to benefit from special education or to have access to an appropriate education placement. The Board defines such transportation as:

travel to and from school and between schools;

travel in and around school buildings or to those activities that are a regular part of a student's instructional program; or

specialized equipment (such as special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps) if required to provide special transportation for a student with disabilities.

A District Child Study Team that develops a disabled student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) will determine, on an individual basis, when a student with a disability requires this related service and such a recommendation must be specified on a student's IEP. The Board will approve special transportation only for those children with disabilities who qualify for transportation as a related service under provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). For all other children with disabilities, the District will provide access to its regular transportation system under policies and procedures applicable to all District students. The Board considers utilization of its regular transportation service as a "least restrictive environment" for students with disabilities.

Mode of Transportation

The District will make one of its special education buses the preferred mode of transportation for students with disabilities. The District may make exceptions in situations where these buses are prohibited from entering certain subdivisions because of inadequate turning space or because distance of residence from school would adversely affect bus scheduling. In such situations, the District will make other arrangements, such as an individual transportation contract with parents that will stipulate in writing terms of reimbursement to the parent.

Cross References: 3300 Suspension and Expulsion

Legal References: 10.16.3820, ARM Transportation for Special Education Students with Disabilities

Policy History:

First Reading: February 23, 2004 – Board of Trustees

Second Reading: August 12, 2004 – Business Committee

Third Reading: August 16, 2004 – Board of Trustees

Adopted on: August 16, 2004
Effective on: August 16, 2004
Revised on: