

1. EQUAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY

- A. It shall be the policy of Independent School District No. 831 to provide equal transportation within the District for all school children to any school when transportation is deemed necessary by the School District in accordance with the provisions of M.S. 123.78.
- B. The School District is empowered by State Laws to provide bus transportation to School District boundaries for children who reside within the District but who attend non-public schools outside the District.
- C. When transportation is provided by the School District, the scheduling of routes, manner and method of transportation, control and discipline of school children and any other matter relating thereto shall be within the sole discretion, control and management of the School Board.

2. REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES

- A. The School District may contract with the parent of such students to provide that portion of transportation which occurs within the School District boundaries. Where such contracts are entered into, the reimbursement to the parent shall be in an amount as determined by the School District pursuant to the rate per mile established in School District Policy No. 302, of necessary travel within the District over the most suitable route of travel between the pupil's residence and the non-public school as determined by the School District.
 - 1. When two or more children from the same family residence are transported by the parent or guardian to the same school in a family vehicle, cost for state aid purposes is to be calculated on the basis of one child only.
- B. The School District may make contractual arrangements with private bus operators, non-public schools, public transit operators, parents and/or other school districts for the transportation of school pupils for any portion of the pupil's trip to or from school, provided that the Board ascertains that it is only paying for and claiming state aid for that portion of the trip that is within the district of residence.
 - 1. The School District's responsibility relative to such contracts shall be limited to the pro-rata cost per resident pupil based on mileage traveled within the resident district as the mileage relates to the total number of miles traveled. Equal transportation is not to be defined in terms of numbers of children transported or number of miles traveled or the average cost per pupil for the transportation of eligible pupils attending public schools.

- C. The Superintendent or his/her designee is hereby delegated the authority to enter into such transportation reimbursement agreements as may be deemed necessary in order to carry out the intention of this Policy and M.S. 123.78.

3. REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENTS

- A. Parents of children attending non-public schools who desire to be reimbursed for transportation expenses must complete and file with the District a Reimbursement Agreement provided by the District.
- B. Reimbursement Agreements for transportation expenses for the school year must be filed with the School District no less than twenty (20) days prior to the first date of attendance at the non-public schools.

4. PAYMENTS

- A. Payments for the reimbursement of student transportation expenses to parents shall be made no later than July 15th of the year during which the expenses were incurred and no more than one such payment shall be made per fiscal year.

Adopted: 2/19/77

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Reviewed by the Policy Committee 5/8/97

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