

Descriptor Term: USE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Descriptor Code: EDAE

Rescinds:

Board Approved: 4/12/2021

Previously Approved: 1/04/1988

Any use of private vehicles to transport students to or from school, field trips, athletic events, or other school functions, must have prior authorization by the Superintendent or his/her designee. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit a parent or guardian from transporting their own child to or from school for daily attendance. Nothing in this policy shall limit the authority of the Superintendent or his/her designee from contracting with a private vendor to provide student transportation in a manner consistent with the laws of the State of Mississippi.

Any employee granted permission to provide transportation must possess a valid driver's license. Permission shall not be granted to any employee who lacks a valid driver's license free of suspension. Individuals providing unauthorized student transportation do so without District permission and at their own risk, expense and liability.

Any employee or private citizen using their own or a rented vehicle to provide school-authorized student transportation must have automobile liability insurance and provide a Certificate of Insurance.

To use a private vehicle for school purposes the employee must have written permission from the Superintendent or his or her designee. Any employee granted permission shall be required to provide proof of a valid driver's license, (one not subject to suspension) and proof of insurance. Permission shall not be granted to any employee one who lacks a valid driver's license (one free of suspension) or proof of insurance.

Permission may be in the form of a standing permit for employees who use their own cars regularly for school purposes. The permit shall state the particular purpose, and whether it includes transportation of students.

For all special trips involving students, including field trips, a special permit must be obtained in advance of the specific trip.

The employee who transports a student without the authorization described above shall be deemed to have acted outside the scope of their authority and the district shall assume no responsibility for indemnification of the employee in the event of a third party claim arising from an accident. The Board specifically forbids any employee to transport students for school purposes without prior authorization by the Superintendent or his/her designee, except in the case of an imminent health or safety emergency involving a student where no other emergency transportation alternative is available. In such an event, the employee shall immediately report the circumstances to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

No student shall be sent on school errands using any automobile.