

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Chester, New Jersey

FILE CODE: 3541.1

<u> X </u>	Monitored
<u> X </u>	Mandated
<u> X </u>	Other Reasons

Policy

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND SERVICES

The Chester Board of Education recognizes that transportation for district students to and from school supports the education program by providing convenient access, safeguarding of children, and furthering the equalization of inequities among students which may have been caused by the placement of school facilities. The board of education directs the chief school administrator to supervise development of bus routes to provide safe, economical and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

- A. Students who live remote from the schoolhouse as defined by New Jersey law;
- B. Educationally disabled students in accordance with their IEP;
- C. Students participating in board-approved extracurricular activities or field trips;
- D. Students whose route to the school is deemed hazardous by the board;
- E. Students attending nonpublic schools who are entitled to transportation under N.J.S.A. 18A:39.
- F. Other students as required by law.

The criteria to be used in designing routes and assigning students 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.

All students riding on district buses shall be required to observe the district's bus conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation. Buses, whether contracted or district-owned, shall be kept in optimum condition and shall conform to all state safety regulations.

On a space-available basis, the board may transport both public and nonpublic students 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 be limited to, the cost of fuel, driver salaries and insurance.

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

Waiver of Eligible Transportation Services

Each school year a parent/guardian of a student who is eligible for transportation services under the law may sign a written statement waiving the student's right to those services. This written statement shall be in the form that is determined by the Department of Education.

If there is a case of a family or economic hardship during the school year in which the parent/guardian has waived the student's transportation service rights, the district will make provisions to provide transportation to the student during this hardship.

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND SERVICES (continued)Transportation along Hazardous Routes

The Chester Board of Education is concerned with the safety of students who walk to and from school along roadways determined to be hazardous routes. The chief school administrator 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 chief school administrator shall develop rules and regulations to supply transportation for students who must walk to and from school along routes designated by the Chester 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;
- G. Drop-offs that are close proximity to a sidewalk;
- H. Bridges or overpasses that must be crossed to reach the school;
- I. Train tracks or trestles that must be crossed to reach the school;
- J. Busy roads and highways that must be crossed to reach the school.

Students 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.

Adopted:	November 12, 2002
Revised:	April 18, 2005
Revised:	July 19 2005
NJSBA Review/Update:	August 2008, August 2016, September 2018
Readopted:	April 27, 2009, September 17, 2018, August 16, 2021, January 2024
Revised:	

Key Words

Student Transportation, Transportation, Busing, Buses, Courtesy Busing, Nonpublic School Students, Student Transportation

<u>Legal References:</u>	N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-57	Calculation of state aid for transportation
	N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.6	Transportation (budget line item)
	N.J.S.A. 18A:36A-13	Transportation services (charter schools)
	N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq.	Transportation To and From Schools
	<u>See particularly:</u>	
	N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.2	
	through -1.9	

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND SERVICES (continued)

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:46-19.6	Transportation to location or maintenance of vehicular classrooms to obtain services; payment of cost
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:46-23	Transportation of students; special classes; handicapped children; state aid
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 39:3-10.9 <u>et al.</u>	<u>New Jersey Commercial Drivers License Act</u>
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 39:3-27	Free registration of certain vehicles; transfer to other motor vehicles
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:27-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Student Transportation
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:27-1.1(b), -2.1, -3.1, -5.1, -6.2, -6.3, -6.4, -9.2(e), -11.1, -13.3	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
<u>P.L. 2011, c.132</u> Parents right to waive eligible transportation rights	
<u>Parents for Student Safety, Inc., v. Morris Bd. of Ed.</u> , 1986 <u>S.L.D.</u> (February 5), St. Bd. rev'g 1984 <u>S.L.D.</u> (August 24), aff'd App. Div., unreported decision (docket no. A-3257-85-T7, decided February 17, 1987) certif. den. 108 <u>N.J.</u> 180 (1987)	
<u>Wayne Board of Education v. Kraft et al.</u> , 139 <u>NJ</u> 597 (1995)	
<u>Policies and Procedures Manual for Student Transportation</u> , N.J. State Department of Education	

Possible

<u>Cross References:</u>	*3220/3230	State funds; federal funds
	*3516	Safety
	*3541.31	Privately owned vehicles
	*3541.33	Transportation safety
	*4211	Recruitment, selection and hiring
	*5200	Nonpublic school students
	*6145	Extracurricular activities
	*6153	Field trips

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.