

ARTICLE III: TRANSPORTATION

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POLICY 4-3.1 MOTOR VEHICLES

Generally

The Poquoson City School Board shall own and operate such motor vehicles as shall be necessary for the division superintendent's office, the maintenance of buildings and grounds, the support service for the instruction and school lunch programs, and for pupil transportation services as described in School Board Policy 4-3.2 and 4-3.3.

Use of School Board Owned Vehicles

Under no circumstances may School Board vehicles be used for private purposes. The division superintendent shall establish regulations to govern the use of School Board automotive equipment in an efficient manner, to insure that essential transportation for the conduct of School Board business is provided at a reasonable cost, and to recognize the need to conserve energy resources.

Vehicle Maintenance

The Poquoson City vehicle maintenance facility shall be used only for servicing, repairing, or otherwise reconditioning buses, vehicles, or equipment owned by the City of Poquoson or the Poquoson School Board.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §22.1-221.

Adopted: November 2002

POLICY 4-3.2 PUPIL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The Poquoson City School Board may provide for the necessary transportation of students. All requirements regarding the transportation of students established by the Code of Virginia, regulations of the Virginia Board of Education, and policies and regulations of the School Board shall be met.

The School Board shall own and operate all school buses used for transporting students to and from the Poquoson City Public Schools. The School Board shall use the Poquoson City central garage for servicing the School Board-owned buses and vehicles. Each fiscal year the School Board shall determine the number of school buses to be purchased. Competitive bids shall be let for the chassis and bodies. Specifications for these bodies and chassis shall comply with the regulations of the Virginia Board of Education.

School Bus Scheduling and Routing

School bus scheduling and routing will comply with the Regulations of the Virginia Board of Education.

Special Use of School Buses

The use of school buses for purposes other than transporting children to school for the regular school hours is permitted with prior approval of the division superintendent and in accordance with regulations pertaining to field trips. The School Board may enter into agreements with nonpublic schools within the school division to provide student transportation to and from such schools and school field trips under such terms and conditions as the School Board deems appropriate and responsible. The School Board may enter into an agreement with any third-party logistics company for use of the school buses for private purposes, except that such third-party logistics company shall not use the school buses to provide transportation of passengers for compensation or for residential delivery of products for compensation.

Sale of School Buses

The School Board may sell or transfer any of its school buses to another school division or purchase a used school bus from another school division or a school bus dealer as long as the school bus (i) conforms to the specifications relating to construction and design effective in the Commonwealth on the date of manufacture; (ii) has a valid Virginia State Police inspection; and (iii) has not reached the end of its useful life according to the school bus replacement schedule utilized by the Department of Education.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§22.1-78, 22.1-176 through 22.1-198, 22.1-221, 46.2-871, 46.2-917 through 46.2-919, 46.2-1089 through 46.2-1090.1; Virginia Board of Education Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation, 8 VAC 20-70-10.

Adopted: November 2002

Revised: June 2015, August 2016, September 2022

POLICY 4-3.3 TRANSPORTATION OF DISABLED STUDENTS

The Poquoson City School Board operates and maintains specially equipped buses students with disabilities. The division superintendent and/or his/her designee shall assume the responsibility for seeing that these buses are adequately serving students with disabilities. When special buses are not provided, other means of transporting students with disabilities will be arranged, consistent with applicable law.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-221; Virginia Board of Education Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation, 8 VAC 20-70-10; Individual with Disabilities Act, 20 U.S.C. §§1400, et seq.; Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12101, et seq.

Adopted: November 2002

Revised: April 2020

POLICY 4-3.4 SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

All buses and other vehicles owned and operated by the Poquoson City School Board shall be inspected for safety in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Virginia Board of Education. All accidents, regardless of the damage involved, must be reported to the division superintendent or his/her designee.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§22.1-181, 22.1-184; Virginia Board of Education Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation, 8 VAC 20-70-10, et seq.

Adopted: November 2002

POLICY 4-3.5 STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

Each Poquoson public schools building principal shall have the authority to suspend the riding privileges of students and/or take other disciplinary actions for students who are disciplinary problems on school buses. Parents (or guardians) of children whose behavior and misconduct on school buses violates the Student Code of Conduct or otherwise endangers the health, safety and welfare of other riders shall be notified that their child/children face the loss of school bus riding privileges and/or other disciplinary actions.

In those instances where students have riding privileges suspended, it shall be the responsibility of the parents (or guardians) of the student to see that their child/children get to and from school safely. The bus driver shall be responsible for maintaining the orderly behavior of students on school buses and shall report misconduct to the student's principal, and provide a copy of all misconduct reports to the transportation office.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§22.1-78, 22.1-181, 22.1-293; Virginia Board of Education Regulations Governing Pupil Transportation, 8 VAC 20-70-10, et seq.

Adopted: November 2002