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Transportation and Infection Control

R8600.01 TRANSPORTATION AND INFECTION CONTROL

This regulation establishes enhanced safety standards for transportation providers in the event of a public health pandemic. These standards apply to all District transportation operations and contracted transportation providers whenever a pandemic-related public health emergency is declared by the State of New Jersey or Board of Education.

- A. To the maximum extent practicable, bus drivers will ensure that students and adults comply with appropriate social distancing practices (at least six feet between riders) while on the school bus.
- B. Drivers should practice all safety actions and protocols as indicated for other staff, including hand hygiene and face coverings.
- C. Students must wear face coverings while entering, exiting, and riding on the bus if social distancing or physical barriers cannot be maintained. Accommodations for students who are unable to wear face coverings should be consistent with the student's IEP or 504 Plan. For adults, accommodations shall be consistent with those provided by the school district for staff and others.
- D. Bus drivers will be reminded to implement certain personal hygiene actions (e.g., frequent hand washing) and be afforded the opportunity to do so (such as having sufficient time between routes).
- E. District vehicles will be cleaned and sanitized including seats, rails, and highly touch surfaces before and after each run.
- F. Contracted transportation providers shall be required to clean and sanitize seats, rails and highly touched surfaces before and after each run. The district shall collaborate



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with the contracted service provider to develop these procedures and ensure that they are consistently followed. The contracted service provider shall collaborate with the district in establishing cleaning/sanitation protocols that are consistent with social distancing practices. The contracted service provider shall ensure that employees are fully trained in the implementation of the established protocols:

- G. All personnel responsible for cleaning school buses shall document the cleaning/sanitizing measures taken. Contracted providers are required to:
1. Demonstrate that their personnel have an understanding of the established protocols that must be taken to properly clean and sanitize the bus; and
 2. Provide a signed certification that all drivers and aides received training regarding applicable federal and state public health guidelines for school transportation. At a minimum, training must include:
 - a. Protocols for cleaning and disinfecting vehicles;
 - b. Safe use of EPA-approved disinfecting products;
 - c. Proper use of face coverings and other personal protective equipment;
 - d. Protocols for responding to potential exposure or contamination; and
 - e. Recommended strategies reducing the spread of infectious disease.
- H. These procedures will include a minimum of two stages: cleaning, which removes dirt and germs from surfaces; and



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disinfecting, which kills germs on surfaces that remain after cleaning.

- I. The procedures will identify sanitizing agents that may be used and will be limited to products included on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's list of products that have been shown to be effective.
- J. The procedures set forth in this regulation are consistent with government-mandated health and safety standards in effect as of the date when it was adopted or last revised. Future public health orders that are inconsistent with these provisions will govern in case of conflict. This regulation will be revised as often as practicable to reflect current standards and requirements.

Adopted: 15 March 2023

