

**Billings School District 2**

**NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS**

Transportation

The District may provide transportation to and from school for a student who:

resides three (3) or more miles, over the shortest practicable route, from the nearest operating public elementary or public high school; or

has a disability and whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) identifies transportation as a related service; or

has another compelling and legally sufficient reason to receive transportation services.

The District may elect to reimburse the parent or guardian of a student for individually transporting their eligible student.

The Board may allow the transporting of children who attend permitted nonpublic schools, provided that space is available on a school bus and provided that the per-seat cost for such transportation is collected. The District also may transport an ineligible public school student, provided that a parent or guardian pays a proportionate share of transportation services. The business manager shall credit monies collected for the transportation of ineligible nonpublic school to the transportation fund. The Board recognizes that transportation issues it cannot resolve may be appealed to the county transportation committee.

The Board permits the Superintendent to establish guidelines under which a student may request in-town busing. In-town busing is defined as the transportation of students who reside less than three (3) miles from their schools.

Homeless students shall be transported in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and state law.

Children in Foster Care

The Superintendent, or designee, will appoint a Point of Contact (POC) to coordinate activities relating to the District's provisions of services to children placed in foster care, including transportation services. The Superintendent or designee, will inform the Department of Health and Human Services who is the POC for the District. The District will collaborate with the Department of Health and Human Services when transportation is required to maintain children placed in foster care in a school of origin outside their usual attendance area or District when in the best interest of the student. Under the supervision of the Superintendent/designee, the POC will invite appropriate District officials, the Department of Health and Human Services POC,

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and officials from other districts to consider how such transportation is to be arranged and funded in a cost-effective manner.

If there are additional costs to be incurred in providing transportation to maintain a student in the school of origin, the District will provide transportation to such school if:

- The Department agrees to reimburse the District for the cost of such transportation;
- The District agrees to pay for the cost of such transportation; or
- The District and the Department agree to share the cost of such transportation.

Definitions

“Foster Care” means 24-hour care for children placed away from their parents, guardians, or person exercising custodial control or supervision and for whom the Department has placement care and responsibility.

“School of origin” means the school in which a child is enrolled at the time of placement in foster care.

While “Best Interest” is not defined in ESSA, that determination shall take into account all relevant factors, including consideration of the appropriateness of the current educational setting, and the proximity to the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of foster care placement.

<u>Legal References:</u>	§ 20-7-441, MCA	Special education child eligibility for transportation
	§ 20-10-101, MCA	Definitions
	§ 20-10-121, MCA	Duty of trustees to provide transportation – types of transportation – bus riding time limitation
	§ 20-10-122, MCA	Discretionary provision of transportation and payment for this transportation
	§ 20-10-123, MCA	Provision of transportation for nonpublic school children
	10.7.101, et seq.,	ARM Introduction
	10.64.101 - 700, et seq.,	ARM Transportation

Policy History:

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