

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

M.S.A.D. #29 will provide transportation at the beginning and end of the school day for all students living beyond a reasonable distance from their school or from a scheduled bus stop as approved by the Board. The Board has determined that this distance shall be one half mile from the road end of his/her driveway to the school or nearest bus stop for elementary (K-5) students, and one mile from the road end of his/her driveway to the school or nearest bus stop for students in grades 6 through 12.

Distance shall be measured by the shortest public road from the road end of the student's driveway to the designated bus stop or school door. In cases questioned, distance will be measured and established by the Superintendent (or: Transportation Director).

Exceptions may be made for the following reasons:

- A. For students with disabilities, as required by their IEP or 504 Plan. Exceptions may also be made to accommodate a student's need for transportation, with written documentation from the student's physician;
- B. Kindergarten bus service will include pick-up and delivery to the student's home, providing a suitable bus turn around is available; and
- C. When a student would be exposed to hazardous walking conditions, defined as those that would place a child of a given age in a situation of greater than normal or average danger.

The District's transportation program will be under the direction of the Transportation Director, who is responsible to the Superintendent.

It is the Board's intent that transportation be scheduled and routed in a way that best serves the educational interests of students and the operations of the school. All bus stops will be determined and enforced by the Transportation Director and/or Superintendent and shall be consistent with Maine State Law. Bus stops will be established to maximize student safety and will be no less than 100 feet apart.

Authorized bus stops will be located so as to load and unload students with the most safety allowed by road conditions. The distance between stops may vary according to safety factors. If possible, students will be loaded and unloaded so that it is not necessary for them to cross a main highway to reach their homes.

A parent may submit a written request for a change in bus stop location to the Transportation Director, who will review the request and. A parent who is dissatisfied

with the Transportation Director's decision may appeal, in writing, to the Superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

BUS OPERATIONS

- A. School buses shall operate only on town-approved or maintained roads.
- B. It is the parents' responsibility to make arrangements for getting the student to the bus stop before the scheduled pick up.
- C. Parents are responsible for their child's conduct and safety at the designated bus stop. M.S.A.D. #29 assumes responsibility for a student only when he/she is onboard the bus.
- D. Students assigned to a school bus are expected to ride from their designated bus stop to school and from school to their designated bus stop. Any exception to this paragraph requires written permission signed by the parent and approved by the principal after consulting with the Transportation Director. Parents should submit requests at least 24 hours prior to the requested change

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 5401

Cross Reference: JICC - Student Conduct on School Buses

Adopted: June 8, 1999

Revised: 1/7/13