

POLICY

PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPERATIONS
8600/page 1 of 3
Transportation
M

8600 TRANSPORTATION

The Board of Education shall transport eligible pupils to and from school and school related activities in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq., N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1 et seq. and Board policy. Transportation shall be provided only to eligible public and nonpublic (and charter, if applicable) school pupils, authorized school staff members, and adults serving as approved chaperones.

The Board of Education directs the Department of Transportation to develop bus routes to provide safe, economical and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

1. Pupils who live remote from the schoolhouse as defined by New Jersey law;
2. Educational disabled pupils in accordance with their IEP;
3. Pupils participating in Board of Education approved extracurricular activities or field trips; and
4. Other pupils as required by law.

The criteria to be used in designing routes, including bus stops, and assigning pupils to them shall include:

1. The distance to be traveled to and from school;
2. The elapsed travel time for students to and from school;
3. The age and state of health of the child;
4. The requirements of the instructional program;
5. The hazards involved on the route to be traveled; and
6. The safety of school bus stop locations.

Transportation to and from school shall be provided as required by law to eligible nonpublic school pupils. All pupils riding on district buses shall be required to observe the district's bus conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation.



POLICY

PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPERATIONS
8600/page 2 of 3
Transportation

The Board will transport disabled pupils in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:46-1 et seq. and Policy No. 8670.

The Board will approve all bus routes by September 30 of each school year. Bus routes for all non-remote pupils who must walk to and from school along hazardous routes will be designated. The Board will consider, but shall not be limited to, the criteria outlined in N.J.S.A 18A:39-1.5 in determining "Hazardous Routes."

The Board will not be responsible for the transportation of nonresident pupils to or from school, except that transportation to and from school will be provided for homeless children for whom the district is determined to be the district of residence and for homeless children enrolled in this district when no district of residence has been determined.

The Board will transport resident children who attend a nonpublic or charter school in the State of New Jersey not more than twenty miles from their residence, but not a lesser distance from their residence than that required for the transportation of pupils enrolled in the schools of this district. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:27-2.2, pupils living more than twenty miles from their nonpublic school are eligible for transportation services when other pupils living within the district, whose residence is less than twenty miles from school, are transported to the same nonpublic school.

Aid in lieu of transportation may be provided to a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of nonpublic and charter pupils pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1.

When the schools of this district are closed for inclement weather or other conditions, no transportation will be provided for pupils enrolled in any public, nonpublic and/or charter school.

When the Board provides transportation of pupils to and from county vocational schools and/or schools classified pursuant to chapter 46 of N.J.S.A. 18A of the New Jersey Statutes and/or when the Board has in the prior year provided payments in lieu of transportation for any nonpublic schools pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 or the Board cannot provide transportation in the ensuing school year the Board will utilize County Educational Services Commissions for providing cooperative transportation services in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:39-11.1. The Board will attempt to use one of the agencies prior to determining to pay



POLICY

PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPERATIONS
8600/page 3 of 3
Transportation

County Educational Services Commissions any unique limitations or restrictions of the required transportation.

When the costs to provide transportation in cooperation with County Educational Services Commissions is less than the aid in lieu of payments, the Board will contract with County Educational Services Commissions to provide transportation. The Board will make the determination on the manner in which transportation services shall be provided in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:39-11.1 and shall notify the nonpublic school and the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the nonpublic school by August 1 prior to the beginning of the school year.

Transportation in cooperation with County Educational Services Commissions will not be required when the district can provide transportation at a lower cost than the County Educational Services Commissions or the transportation provided by County Educational Services Commissions does not fall within the policies of the Board regarding length of ride and assignment of students to a route based on student age or classification.

Vehicles used to transport pupils to and from school or school related activities shall meet standards, registration and inspection requirements of the New Jersey Departments of Education and Transportation. The operation and fiscal management of the district's transportation system shall be conducted in strict accordance with rules of the State Board of Education and the Department of Education Policy and Procedures Manual for Pupil Transportation.

N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 39:3B-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.1 et seq.; 6A:27-2.1 et seq.; 6A:27-3.1.

Adopted: 31 October 2002

