

Three Rivers School District

8550 New Hope Rd • PO Box 160 • Murphy, OR 97533

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

School transportation services will be provided for transporting students to and from school and for transporting students to and from curricular and extracurricular activities sponsored by the schools. The district will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to school bus transportation.

Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the student's school of origin¹ as required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA). These services shall be provided throughout the regularly scheduled year and during the regular school day as determined by the TRSD Board of Directors.

Elementary students (K-8) who live more than one mile from school and secondary students (9-12) who live at least one and one-half miles from school are eligible for school bus transportation to and from school.

Under certain conditions, for example, lack of sidewalks, dangerous intersections and other health or safety hazards, the Board authorizes the District's Transportation Coordinator, with notification of the Superintendent and in accordance with the district's approved supplemental plan, to transport elementary school students within one-half mile of school.

Miles from school will be determined by the Transportation Coordinator in accordance with OAR 581-023-0040 (1)(c).

Transportation will be provided to a student of a school receiving Title I funds to attend a district school out of the student's attendance area because his/her home school has been identified as in need of improvement, corrective action or restructuring. Such transfers will be permitted and transportation provided only to a safe school that has not been identified for improvement, corrective action or restructuring. The obligation of the district to provide for transportation will terminate at the end of the school year if the school from which the student transferred is no longer in school improvement.

In the event all other district schools a student may transfer to have also been identified as in need of improvement, corrective action or restructuring or there is no other district school to which the student may transfer², the district shall, to the extent practicable, establish a cooperative agreement with other districts in the area for a transfer. Transportation for students who transfer for such purposes will be provided for in accordance with the agreement³.

The district may also provide transportation using federal funds⁴ or through cooperative agreements with local victims assistance units for a student to attend a safe district school⁵ out of the student's attendance

¹"School of origin" means the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.

²If there are no district schools to which students can transfer because: (1) all schools at a grade level are in school improvement; (2) there is only one school in the district; or (3) the rural or isolated nature of the school district prevents choice, the district must notify the parents that the student's school has been identified for school improvement but that no choices are currently available.

³Interdistrict transportation under NCLBA does not appear to be a district responsibility. Districts should consult with their attorney.

area for any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense occurring in or on the grounds of the school the student attends or the student attends a school identified as persistently dangerous.

Transportation provided will, to the extent possible, be to a school that is making adequate yearly progress and that has not been identified as in need of improvement, corrective action or restructuring. If there are no other schools within the district a student may transfer to, the district may establish a cooperative agreement with other districts in the area for a transfer. Transportation for students who transfer for such purposes will be provided in accordance with the agreement.

Students attending any private, parochial or public charter school under the compulsory school attendance laws will, where the private, parochial or public charter school is along or near the bus route, be provided equally the riding privileges given to public school students.

The Board may authorize such other use of the district's buses as is allowed under state law, Oregon Department of Education rules and Board policies.

A seat that fully supports each person and meets the minimum standards and specifications of law will be provided at all times. A person who weighs 40 pounds or less must be properly secured with a child safety system that meets the minimum standards and specifications established by the Department of Transportation under ORS 815.055. A person who weighs more than 40 pounds, who is 4 feet nine inches or shorter and under eight years of age must be properly secured with a child safety system that elevates the person so that a safety belt or safety harness properly fits the person.⁶ A person who is taller than four feet nine inches or eight years of age or older must be properly secured with a safety belt or harness that meets the requirements under ORS 815.055.

In accordance with ORS 811.210 and 811.215 vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds used for student transportation are exempt from statutory requirements unless they have been equipped with lap belts. Vehicles in excess of 10,000 pounds that have been equipped with lap belts must meet child car seat requirements as set forth in law.

Buses carrying school children will be considered as extensions of the school situation, and all students using school transportation will abide by the code of conduct posted in each bus.

MOVE TO EEACC-AR

The following are state regulations for OAR 581-53-002 on bus transportation:

- Pupils being transported are under authority of the bus driver.
- Fighting, wrestling, or boisterous activity is prohibited on the bus and at all bus stops.
- Students shall use the emergency door only in case of emergency.
- Students shall be on time for the bus, both morning and evening.
- Students shall not bring animals, firearms, alcohol, controlled substances, or other potentially hazardous items or materials on the bus.
- Students shall remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- Students may be assigned a seat if deemed necessary by the bus driver.
- When necessary to cross the road, students shall cross in front of the bus or as directed by the bus driver.
- Students shall not extend their hands, arms, heads, or other objects through the bus windows.
- Students shall have written permission to leave the bus at a point other than at home or school.
- Students shall converse in normal tones; loud or vulgar language is prohibited.
- Students shall not open or close windows without permission of the driver.
- Students shall not throw items out of open bus windows.

⁴Federal funds means funds available through Title IV, Part A, and Title V, Part A.

⁵If there is not another school in the district to which students can transfer, districts are encouraged, but not required to, explore other appropriate options, i.e., an agreement with a neighboring district.

⁶“Proper fit” means the lap belt of the safety belt or safety harness is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.

- Students shall keep the bus clean and not cause any damage.
- Students shall be courteous to the drivers, to other students, and to passers-by.
- Students who refuse to promptly obey the direction of the driver or refuse to obey regulations may forfeit their privilege to ride on the bus.
- Violations of District transportation rules will not be tolerated. The discipline may result in students violating these rules in being prohibited from riding the bus, either temporarily or permanently.

Violations of such code, as well as other conduct which is improper or jeopardizes the safety of other students, will be reported by the bus driver to the transportation supervisor. The transportation supervisor will, as soon as possible, inform the appropriate school or building principal of such occurrence. Violators may be denied use of school bus transportation for a period of time as deemed proper by the building principal and/or transportation supervisor. In all instances, the District appeal process will be followed.

The building principal or designee shall ensure transportation officials and drivers receive notification of students having special medical or behavioral protocols identified in student records.

Information and/or training, including confidentiality requirements, will be provided to drivers, as appropriate.

The bus driver will be responsible for the bus at all times from departure until return. The driver will not participate in any activities that might impair his/her driving abilities.

The district will comply with all state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to school bus transportation

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 327.006	OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075
ORS 327.033	OAR 581-022-1530
ORS 327.043	OAR 581-023-0040
ORS 332.405	OAR 581-053-0002 to -0015
ORS 332.415	OAR 735-102-0010
ORS 339.240 - 339.250	
ORS 343.155 - 343.246	
ORS 343.533	
ORS 811.210	
ORS 815.055	
ORS 815.080	
ORS 820.100 - 820.190	

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, Title I, Section 1116 and Title IX, Section 9532.
 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, 42 U.S.C. Sections 11431-11435.

Cross Reference(s):

EEAB - School Bus Scheduling and Routing
 EEACC - Student Conduct on School Buses