



POLICY

223 Use of Bicycles and Motor Vehicles

POLICY NUMBER

223

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7/23/2002

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Purpose

The Board recognizes that students may use bicycles, electric bicycles and motor vehicles for transportation to and from school. Such use is a privilege and constitutes an assumption of responsibility by students and their parents/guardians. The Board seeks to establish reasonable requirements that support student safety and the orderly operation on district property.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, an electric bicycle (e-bike) means a bicycle equipped with operable pedals and an electric motor that meets applicable requirements of Pennsylvania law and district administrative regulations.

Similar device means a scooter, skateboard, roller skates, roller blades, motorized board, electric dirt bike, personal mobility device or other device used for personal transportation that is not a bicycle, approved e-bike or licensed motor vehicle.

Authority

The Board shall permit students to use bicycles in accordance with this policy and applicable administrative regulations, provided that students have obtained parent/guardian permission and any approval required by the building principal or designee.

The Board shall permit eligible high school students who are at least sixteen (16) years of age to use approved e-bikes in accordance with this policy, applicable law and administrative regulations. Elementary and middle school students shall not operate e-bikes on district property at any time, including outside regular school hours.

The Board shall permit eligible secondary students to operate motor vehicles in accordance with applicable law, Board policy and district procedures, provided that the student is properly licensed, has completed established procedures, has obtained any required permit and has authorization from the building principal or designee.

Motorized or electric scooters, electric dirt bikes, motorized skateboards and other motorized personal transportation devices that do not qualify as approved e-bikes or registered motor vehicles are prohibited on district property. The use of non-motorized scooters, skateboards, roller skates and roller blades shall be governed by administrative regulations.

The district may restrict or prohibit any device when its design, condition or use presents a safety concern, disrupts school operations or does not comply with law or district requirements.

The district shall not be responsible for bicycles, e-bikes, motor vehicles or similar devices that are lost, stolen or damaged, or for injuries arising from their use, except as otherwise provided by law.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and disseminate administrative regulations governing authorized devices, student eligibility, operation, parking, storage, safety expectations, parent/guardian acknowledgment and revocation of privileges.

The building principal or designee shall implement and enforce this policy and applicable administrative regulations. Authorization or privileges may be denied, suspended or revoked when a student violates law, Board policy, district procedures or reasonable safety directives.

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

COMMENCED:

REVISED:

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION FOR POLICY 223 USE OF BICYCLES, ELECTRIC BICYCLES, AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Purpose

This administrative regulation establishes requirements for the safe use, operation, parking and storage of bicycles, electric bicycles and similar transportation devices by students on district property.

Definitions

Bicycle: A human-powered vehicle propelled by pedals.

Approved Electric Bicycle (E-Bike): A bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor that meets applicable Pennsylvania requirements, including a weight of less than one hundred (100) pounds, a motor rated at no more than 750 watts and a maximum speed of no more than twenty (20) miles per hour when powered by the motor.

Electric Dirt Bike: An electric-powered cycle without fully operable pedals for human propulsion or a device manufactured or designated for off-road use.

Motor Vehicle: A vehicle requiring licensure, registration, insurance, inspection or a student parking permit under applicable law or district procedures.

Motorized or Electric Scooter: A wheeled device with handlebars and a platform designed to be stood upon and powered in whole or in part by a motor.

Similar Device: A non-motorized scooter, skateboard, roller skates, roller blades, motorized board, personal mobility device or other device used for personal transportation.

School Property: Buildings, grounds, access roads, parking areas, sidewalks, athletic areas and other property owned, leased or controlled by the district.

Permitted and Prohibited Devices

Elementary and middle school students may ride traditional bicycles to school with parent/guardian permission and any building-level approval required by the principal or designee. Elementary and middle school students may not operate e-bikes on district property at any time, including before or after school, on weekends or during other non-school hours.

High school students who are at least sixteen (16) years of age may ride an approved e-bike to school, subject to applicable law and the requirements of this regulation. Traditional bicycles

may be used by high school students with parent/guardian permission and any required building-level approval.

Motorized or electric scooters, electric dirt bikes, motorized skateboards and other motorized personal transportation devices are prohibited on district property unless the device qualifies as an approved e-bike, is a properly registered motor vehicle operated in accordance with district parking procedures, or is authorized as a mobility accommodation.

Non-motorized scooters, skateboards, roller skates and roller blades may be used only for transportation to and from school when authorized by the building principal. They may not be operated during the school day or inside school buildings.

Nothing in this regulation shall restrict the authorized use of a mobility device by an individual with a disability.

Permission and Registration

- A student must obtain parent/guardian permission before riding a bicycle, approved e-bike or similar authorized device to school.
- For an elementary student, parent/guardian permission shall include acknowledgment that the parent/guardian has determined that the student possesses the maturity, judgment and bicycle-riding skills necessary to travel safely to and from school.
- The building principal may require annual registration, identifying information, or acknowledgment of district rules before granting permission.
- A high school student seeking to use an e-bike must provide information reasonably requested by the district to verify that the student is at least sixteen (16) years of age and that the device qualifies as an approved e-bike.
- Permission is specific to the student and device and may not be transferred.

Operating Requirements

1. Obey applicable state and local laws and all directions from school officials.
2. Yield to pedestrians and operate at a safe speed.
3. Use school roadways and other routes designated by the administration.
4. Dismount and walk the device on sidewalks, walkways, courtyards, at building entrances, in parking areas and in other locations designated by the administration.
5. Not operate a bicycle, e-bike or similar device inside a school building or during the school day unless specifically authorized.
6. Not carry a passenger unless the device and applicable law permit a passenger.
7. Not operate recklessly, perform stunts or use the device in a manner that endangers persons or property.
8. Use required safety equipment and comply with applicable helmet laws.
9. Not use headphones, mobile devices or other distractions while operating the device on district property.

Parking, Storage and Charging

- Devices must be parked only in a designated bicycle rack or other location approved by the building principal.
- Students are responsible for locking and securing their devices.
- Devices may not block entrances, exits, sidewalks, fire lanes, accessible routes or emergency access.

- E-bike batteries and batteries for other personal transportation devices may not be removed, stored or charged anywhere on district property, including inside buildings and on district grounds.
- The district may relocate or remove a device when necessary to address immediate safety, access, or operational concern.

Device Condition and Modification

A device must be maintained in safe operating condition. The district may deny use of a device that appears damaged, altered or capable of operation inconsistent with applicable law or district requirements. Students may not modify or bypass a manufacturer-installed speed limitation or safety feature for purposes of operating the device on district property.

Violations and Revocation of Privileges

The building principal or designee may issue a warning or suspend or revoke a student's privilege to bring or operate a device on district property for unsafe operation, failure to follow directions, or violation of law, Board policy, the Code of Student Conduct or this regulation. The parent/guardian shall be notified when a privilege is suspended or revoked.

Disciplinary action, when appropriate, shall be administered in accordance with Policy 218 and the Code of Student Conduct.

Loss, Theft, Damage and Liability

Students bring bicycles, e-bikes and similar devices onto district property at their own risk. The district does not assume responsibility for loss, theft, vandalism or damage, except as otherwise provided by law.

Administrative Exceptions

The Superintendent or designee may impose additional building-specific restrictions based on site conditions, student safety, disability accommodations, changes in law or operational needs. Exceptions shall not authorize a device or activity prohibited by applicable law. Building-specific requirements shall be communicated to affected students and parents/guardians.