

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

4:110 Transportation

The District shall provide free transportation for any student in the District who resides: (1) at a distance of one and one-half miles or more from his or her assigned school, unless the Board of Education has certified to the Ill. State Board of Education that adequate public transportation is available, or (2) if adequate public transportation is not available, within one and one-half miles from his or her assigned school where walking to or from school or to or from a pick-up point or bus stop would constitute a *serious safety hazard* due to either (a) vehicular traffic or rail crossing or (b) *a course or pattern of criminal activity*, as defined in the Ill. Streetgang Terrorism Omnibus Prevention Act, [740 ILCS 147/](#). The District may provide and charge a fee for transportation for other students residing within one and one-half miles from their assigned school. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may file a petition with the Board requesting transportation due to the existence of a serious safety hazard. Free transportation service and vehicle adaptation is provided for a special education student if included in the student's individualized educational program. The District may provide transportation to and from school-sponsored activities. Non-public school students shall be transported in accordance with State law. Homeless students shall be transported in accordance with [Section 45/1-15](#) of the Education for Homeless Children Act. Foster care students shall be transported in accordance with [Section 6312\(c\)\(5\)\(B\)](#) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

School buses and student-transportation vehicles shall be purchased or leased, housed, and maintained by the District for the transportation of resident students between their home areas and the schools of the District to which they are assigned.

Bus schedules and routes shall be determined by the Transportation Director and shall be altered only with the Transportation Director's approval and direction. In setting the routes, the pick-up and discharge points should be as safe for students as possible.

No school employee may transport students in school or private vehicles unless authorized by the administration.

Every vehicle regularly used for the transportation of students must pass safety inspections in accordance with State law and Ill. Dept. of Transportation regulations. The strobe light on a school bus may be illuminated only when the bus is actually being used as a school bus and (1) is stopping or stopped for loading or discharging students on a highway outside an urban area, or (2) is bearing one or more students. The Superintendent shall implement procedures in accordance with State law for accepting comment calls about school bus driving.

All contracts for charter bus services must contain the clause prescribed by State law regarding criminal background checks for bus drivers.

Pre-Trip and Post-Trip Vehicle Inspection

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a pre-trip and post-trip inspection procedure to ensure that the school bus driver: (1) tests the two-way radio or cellular radio telecommunication device and ensures that it is functioning properly before the bus is operated, and (2) walks to the rear of the bus before leaving the bus at the end of each route, work shift, or work day, to check the bus for children or other passengers in the bus.

School district bus drivers, whether a District employee and/or an employee of a contracted provider, are prohibited from using cellular radio communication devices while operating a school bus. The only exception to the policy is in case of emergency (bus should be in Park).

LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §6312](#)(c)(5)(B), Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

[42 U.S.C. §11431](#)*et seq.*, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-22.22](#)and [5/29-1](#)*et seq.*

[105 ILCS 45/1-15](#)and [/1-17](#).

[625 ILCS 5/1-148.3a-5](#), [5/1-182](#), [5/11-1414.1](#), [5/12-813.1](#), [5/12-815](#), [5/12-816](#), [5/12-821](#), and [5/13-109](#).

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.510](#)and [226.750](#); [Part 120](#).

[92 Ill.Admin.Code Part 440](#).

[105 ILCS 45/1-15a](#).

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 5:100 (Staff Development Program), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:280 (Educational Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:170 (School Counseling Program), 7:220 (Bus Conduct)